**NOTICE**

**COVID-19 EMERGENCY MEASURES (No. 6)**

These emergency measures are made pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2)(b) of the Direction by the President, given under the Public Health Ordinance, Cap. 145, and published in the *Gazette*, Legal Supplement- B, 16th March 2020.

Except for paragraph 7, the measures shall take effect from the 18th July, 2020 and last until the 31st July, 2020. The measures in paragraph 7 shall last until the 3rd August, 2020.

These measures may be terminated, extended or amended by notice of the Minister of Public Health after an assessment of the prevailing public health conditions.

**1. Restriction to home**

Except as otherwise provided in this Notice every person shall remain in the confines of his or her home and its yard space.

 **2. Restriction on social activities**

1. No person shall host, attend or visit-
2. a private party;
3. a recreational or competitive sporting event;
4. a wedding, other than the bride, the bridegroom, official witnesses and the marriage officer;
5. a banquet, ball or reception;
6. a bar or rum shop;
7. a wake or vigil;
8. a gym;
9. a spa;
10. a club or discotheque;
11. a meeting of a fraternal society, private or social club or civic association or organisation; or
12. any other social activity.
13. No water sports or recreational activities shall be allowed on any river, creek, beach and internal waters.
14. No more than ten mourners, one officiant and the funeral director and the necessary staff shall attend a funeral.
15. Ninety minutes of exercise is permitted from Monday to Friday only in parks, on roads, seawalls, beaches and by rivers and creeks.
16. Where gatherings are allowed it shall not exceed ten persons.

**3.** **Restriction on visitation**

No person shall visit or be permitted to visit-

1. any place of quarantine or an isolation facility;
2. a prison or correctional facility;
3. a patient in a hospital, nursing home, senior citizens’ home or any other care facility.

**4. Curfew**

1. Subject to subparagraph (2), except for the areas and geographical coordinates listed in the Schedule, a curfew is hereby imposed throughout Guyana from the 18th July, 2020 to 31st July, 2020 between the hours of 8:00pm and 6:00am.
2. The curfew shall only be applicable to regions five and six on Saturdays and Sundays.

**5. Public and Private Sector**

1. All persons employed within the Public Service, a semi-autonomous agency, statutory body or State-owned enterprise shall not work remotely from home but shall work on rotation unless otherwise instructed by their respective Minister or Head of Agency.
2. Private sector entities may be opened but employees shall work on rotation as determined by their employer.
3. Every employer shall ensure a roster is prepared setting out a gradual return of employees, starting from the most essential and critical staff with twenty percent increment of staff strength every week or a rotation system where fifty percent of the staff are at the workplace on different days, to prevent crowded offices for a minimum period of a month after which the situation may be reassessed.
4. Every employer under this paragraph shall ensure that appropriate Covid-19 guidelines are prepared and implemented to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus among workers.
5. The Covid-19 guidelines mentioned in subparagraph (4) shall include measures addressing-
6. screening of workers;
7. organisation of work;
8. preventative measures before and after work;
9. preventative measures while using transportation;
10. procedures to be adopted when there is a suspected Covid-19 case at the workplace;
11. dealing with stress at the workplace during Covid-19;
12. employee training and capacity building in the area of Covid-19;
13. cleaning and disinfecting protocols;
14. use of personal protective equipment;
15. physical distancing guidelines;
16. clients and customers’ interactions;
17. communication materials;
18. continuous monitoring to assess the Covid-19 pandemic at the workplace.

**6. Essential and other Services**

1. The following essential services may carry on operations for 24 hours each day-
2. hospitals, healthcare and medical services including pharmacies, drug stores and private veterinary services;
3. nursing homes, orphanages, shelters and other related care centres;
4. immigration;
5. the Judiciary;
6. the Parliament;
7. the Diplomatic Corps;
8. the Revenue Authority;
9. the Maritime Administration Department;
10. the National Emergency Operations Centre;
11. water supply services including the collection, storage, purification and distribution of water for public use;
12. the disciplined forces;
13. prison services;
14. solid waste management, sewerage and janitorial services including live-in domestic workers;
15. National Drainage and Irrigation Authority;
16. air traffic control;
17. Demerara Harbour Bridge and Berbice River Bridge;
18. medical schools;
19. hotels and accommodation;
20. electricity and energy services including the oil and gas sector and those who provide services to the oil and gas sector;
21. businesses that ensure global continuity of supply of mining and petroleum materials and products (e.g. metals and minerals such as bauxite, gold and diamonds);
22. mining and petroleum development operations, production and processing;
23. mineral and petroleum exploration and development;
24. mining and petroleum supply and services that support supply chains in the mining and petroleum industries;
25. businesses and operations that engage in the cutting, processing and preparation of trees into lumber and ensure continuity of supply of forestry products;
26. security services including private security;
27. telecommunications providers including internet, telephone and call centre operators, media houses, broadcasting and the Guyana National Printers Ltd.;
28. port operations limited to bulk marking operations and loading and offloading only, of marine vessels, petroleum vessels, ships, bulk and containerised vessels;
29. port service logistics and freight services, including transportation and delivery services to and from wharves, terminals and ports;
30. transportation of dry goods and beverages for wholesale delivery;
31. public and private sector construction in accordance with the safety standards mentioned in paragraph 10(g);
32. factories, manufacturers and distributors;
33. services of Attorneys-at-Law.
34. The following services may be open between 6:00 am to 5:00 pm each day -
35. banks and other financial institutions defined in the Financial Institutions Act, Cap. 85:03, remittance services, and their support services;
36. markets, supermarkets, fruit and vegetable stalls, bulk food stores and neighbourhood grocery shops;
37. gas stations;
38. postal and shipping services;
39. funeral homes;
40. beauty salons and barbershops;
41. operation, inspection, repair and maintenance of essential services including vehicles, vessels and aircraft and traffic signal maintenance;
42. automotive repair and maintenance facilities that provide direct support to essential businesses;
43. hardware, plumbing and electrical stores;
44. clothing, shoes and books stores;
45. services necessary for the maintenance of residences including plumbing, electrical and extermination services.

1. (a) Subject to subparagraph (c), food services and restaurants shall be opened only for delivery, drive-thru, curb-side pickup and take away services from 6:00 a.m. to midnight.

(b) Indoor and buffet dining is prohibited.

(c) Outdoor dining at a restaurant shall only be permitted during the hours 6:00 am to 6:00 pm and where-

1. tables are spaced six feet apart from each other;
2. no more than four persons are seated at one table and at least three feet apart.

(d) Staff at restaurants shall wear a mask at all times and shall sanitise dining tables and chairs after use by each customer.

1. Where a Village Council, as defined in the Amerindian Act, Cap. 29:01, has determined that a public health threat exists in relation to any mining or forestry operation conducted in accordance with subparagraph (1), the Village Council shall recommend to the Minister of Public Health that the operation be discontinued.

**7. Special Measures Applicable to Specified Hinterland and Mining Communities**

1. In addition to the measures in this Notice, the measures under this paragraph shall apply to the areas and residents, mining sites and businesses within the radius of the geographical coordinates listed in the Schedule and where there is any conflict, the measures under this paragraph shall prevail.
2. A curfew is hereby imposed in the areas and geographical coordinates listed in the Schedule from the 18th July, 2020 to 3rd August, 2020 between the hours of 6:00pm and 6:00am.
3. No person shall travel into or out of the areas and the geographical coordinates listed in the Schedule during the period 18th July, 2020 to the 3rd August, 2020 without the authorisation of the Minister of Public Health.
4. Gatherings shall not exceed five persons and the physical distance of six feet between persons shall apply to those gatherings.
5. All mining operations shall cease.

1. The Regional Democratic Council shall ensure that Government buildings, landings and means of transportation and conveyances are sanitised.
2. Where the Ministry of Health considers it necessary, the Ministry may test any person for Coronavirus and quarantine or isolate and treat any person.
3. Any person who tests positive for Coronavirus shall be placed in controlled isolation.
4. The Joint Services shall-
5. coordinate, mobilise and secure-
6. quarantine and isolation sites,
7. materials and goods of those sites; and
8. screening and testing checkpoints;
9. provide escort for mobile teams; and
10. ensure the security of entry and exit points of the areas and geographical coordinates listed in the Schedule.
11. Any person who provides transport within the areas and geographical coordinates listed in the Schedule whether by land, water or air shall not carry in that transport more than half the number of passengers which the motor vehicle, vessel or aircraft is licensed to carry and the operators and passengers of any motor vehicle, vessel or aircraft shall wear personal protective equipment at all times while in the vehicle, vessel or aircraft.

**8. Requirement of Identification**

Any person permitted to go to work under this Notice shall have in his or her possession an official identification document and official work identification document or some proof of workplace, and shall produce the identification documents or proof of workplace if requested to do so by a member of the Police Force.

**9. Preferential Treatment for Healthcare Workers**

Where a healthcare worker has to do business in a service mentioned in paragraph 6(2) (a), (b), (c) or (3), the worker shall not join a line but shall be given preferential treatment on submission of proof of identification.

**10. Social distancing and physical distancing protocols**

Every employer or operator of a business, as the case may be, shall ensure that-

1. hand washing stations, or hand sanitising equipment, are placed and maintained at the entrance of the workplace or business premises, so that persons entering the premises have the opportunity to wash or sanitise their hands before entering the premises;
2. its employees, customers or visitors are directed to wash or sanitise their hands before entering the workplace or business premises;
3. all employee workstations and all equipment on the business premises are sanitised before each work shift;
4. as far as is reasonably practicable, that all employees, customers and visitors maintain a physical distance of six feet from each other in or outside of the workplace or business;
5. persons with flu-like symptoms or respiratory symptoms are not permitted to go to work, or if they are at work, are not permitted to remain at work; or enter the business premises and that the Ministry of Public Health is informed of the persons who have those symptoms;
6. every person is wearing a mask fitted to cover the nose and mouth of the person while in the workplace or on the business premises;
7. as it relates to public and private sector construction, a Covid-19 officer is appointed and stationed at each site where there are five or more workers at the site who shall be responsible for the implementation of the safety standards to be prepared by each construction service and approved by the Ministers responsible for public health and public works.

**11. Religious Worship**

1. Except for the conduct of funeral services and weddings, all churches and places of religious worship including mosques and temples shall be closed.
2. Subparagraph (1) does not prohibit any religious worship by virtual or electronic means provided that if virtual or electronic worship is being carried on in the place of worship the number of persons in that place shall not exceed five persons and the physical distance of six feet between persons shall apply.

**12. Wearing masks in public**

Every person shall wear a mask fitted to cover the nose and mouth of the person when in public.

**13. Domestic Travel**

1. Except for those areas listed in the Schedule, any person who provides transport within Guyana whether by land, water or air shall not carry in that transport more than seventy-five percent the number of passengers which the motor vehicle, vessel or aircraft is licensed to carry and the operators and passengers of any motor vehicle, vessel or aircraft shall wear personal protective equipment while in the vehicle, vessel or aircraft.
2. A motor vehicle, vessel or aircraft shall not be used for a purpose other than a purpose related to a service under paragraphs 5 and 6.
3. Medical evacuation flights shall be allowed with only the patient, one health official and, where necessary, one family member.
4. The Kurupukari Crossing shall be closed except during the hours of 6am to 5pm and only to facilitate the passage of essential services and supplies.
5. The Police Force shall have powers to stop any motor vehicle, vessel or aircraft and inquire as to the purposes for which that motor vehicle, vessel or aircraft is being utilised, and may arrest anyone found in violation of this paragraph.

**14. International Air Travel**

The Cheddi Jagan International and Eugene F. Correia International Airports shall remain closed to all international flights except for outgoing flights, cargo flights, medical evacuation flights, technical stops for fuel only and special authorised flights.

**15. Testing for the Coronavirus (Covid-19)**

1. Where any private medical laboratory tests any person for Coronavirus and the result of the test is positive, the private medical laboratory shall immediately report and forward the name and address of the person and the result of the test to the Director of the Health Emergency Operations Centre.
2. Where any person has tested positive for Coronavirus that person shall-
3. comply with all applicable directions given and requirements imposed by the Health Emergency Operations Centre; and
4. provide information to the Health Emergency Operations Centre about any individual with whom the person may have had contact with, at least fourteen days before testing positive for Coronavirus.

**16. Hotline Calls to be Justifiable**

A person shall not call a Covid-19 hotline number without a justifiable reason.

**17. Offence**

Any person who fails to comply with any of these measures commits an offence under section 152 of the Public Health Ordinance and is liable on summary conviction to the penalty provided under that section.

**18. Measures taken by certain Ministers**

All other measures taken under any law or administratively by the Ministers responsible for Education, Civil Aviation, Maritime, Immigration and Finance shall remain effective and in full force.

**SCHEDULE (Paragraph 7)**

* + - 1. Aranka/Arangoy Landing and all mining sites and residents within the radius of the following geographical coordinates-

Point 1 Easting 227245 Northing 712050

Point 2 Easting 242122 Northing 726327

Point 3 Easting 226835 Northing 726395

Point 4 Easting 227245 Northing 711979

1. Moruca and all residents and businesses within the radius of following geographical coordinates-

Easting 287078 Northing 843775

Point 1 Easting 252575 Northing 828716

Point 2 Easting 326394 Northing 828519

Point 3 Easting 347585 Northing 800028

Point 4 Easting 253485 Northing 800892

Made this 16th day of July, 2020.

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 Hon. Volda Lawrence

Minister of Public Health