GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR-CUM-DISTRICT MAGISTRATE PUDUCHERRY

No.05153/D2/COVID/DM/2020

Dated: 19-April-2020

ID NOTE

Sub: DRDM - COVID-19 - Enforcement of Lock Down Measures-

- Reg.

Ref: i. G.O.Ms.No. 03/2020 dated 23.03.2020 of the Department of

Revenue & Disaster Management, Puducherry.

ii. Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-l(A) dated 24.03.2020 of Ministry

of Home Affairs, Government of India.

iii. Order No.1703/DRDM/DM/D2/2020 Dated: 25th March 2020

iv. Order Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 15.04.2020 of

Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

v) Order No.1703/DRDM/DM/D2/2020/28 Dated: 18.04.2020

vi) Letter No. Nil dt. 11/04/2020 of the Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Puducherry.

Adverting to above, it is informed that consequent to the imposition of the lock down measures to contain the spread of the COVID 19, the District Administration has been taking various measures in coordination with all line deportments in implementing social distance and safety measures. Various orders / instructions have been issued based on the emerging situation to ensure proper coordination in implementing the containment and social distancing. One among them is closure of bars, liquor shops and distilleries.

However instance of sale of liquors non-complying with lock down measures is being reported which is punishable under the DM Act 2005, Epidemic Act 1897 and other relevant provisions.

In this regard it is informed that, Thiru. Anbalagan MLA has submitted a petition to Hon'ble Lt. Governor raising allegation against lapse on the part of the field level police officials in controlling the non compliance which has been forwarded to the undersigned for necessary action.

The extract of the allegation raised in the petitions is as follows:

"The sale illegal liquors during lock down is rampant mainly due to the nexus between the bar owners and some police officials of the area concerned. It is the inaction and failure of police and hence the police officials have to be held responsible for the violation. Also if the situation continues, Puducherry would become a centre for black sale of liquors and lead to general law and order disturbance"

Based on the above, the Hon'ble Lt. Governor has observed that the police officials in the respective jurisdiction are colluding with bar owners and responsibility should be fixed on SHOs and supervisory police officers in the event of violations.

In this regard, the Dy. Commissioner (Excise) of all regions have been directed to carryout intensive stock verification in all the licensed premises in a time bound manner by engaging adequate man power. Also all the licensees have been directed to fix CCTV camera in the licensed premises and godowns.

Therefore it is requested to give necessary direction to Police officials up to Beat Officer level for strict monitoring and enforcement of lock down measures including those persons involved in illegal sale of liquors and take appropriate action for non compliance under Disaster Management Act. 2005, Epidemic Act 1897 and IPC. Also direction be issued to investigate the involvement of any of the licensees and intimate to the Dy. Commissioner (Excise) concerned for further action under Excise Act.

(Dr.T.ARUN, I.A.S.) DISTRICT MAGISTRATE-CUM-EXCISE COMMISSIOENR

To

The Director General of Police, Puducherry.

Copy to:

- 1. The PS to Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Puducherry
- 2. The PS to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Puducherry.
- The PS to the Hon'ble Ministers (Excise), Puducherry.
- The Chief Secretary to Govt., Puducherry.
- The Secretary (Excise), Puducherry.