PROHIBITORY ORDER U/S 144 Cr.PC. 1973.

Whereas the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), a highly contagious disease declared to be a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO), has spread throughout the country in the last few weeks in a rapid manner endangering the life of all citizens.

Whereas it is an established medical fact that COVID-19 spreads to a person through contact with another person who is carrying the virus and therefore, social distancing and avoiding gathering of public is very essential to reduce the risk of transmission.

Whereas the Government of Sikkim is taking various measures to curtail the transmission of the virus in the State and necessary directions have been issued vide Notification No.14/Home/2020 dated 16/03/2020 and orders have been issued by the undersigned under the provisions of section 34 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

Whereas, the undersigned is satisfied that there is a real an imminent threat of possible outbreak of COVID-19 in East Sikkim District and that there is sufficient grounds for proceeding under section 144 of the Cr.PC in the present case for averting danger to human life, health and safety.

Whereas, the circumstance of the situation do not admit serving of notice in due time upon all the persons residing in East Sikkim district, this order is passed ex-parte u/s 144 of Cr.PC.

Therefore, in exercise of the powers vested in me u/s 144(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1977, I Raj Yadav, IAS, District Magistrate, East Sikkim directs that:-

1) Any assembly of five or more persons shall be prohibited in the Gangtok Municipal Corporation (GMC) area and Bazaar areas of Ranipool, Singtam, Rangpo, Pakyong, Rhenock & Rongli. However, marriages and other social gatherings shall be exempted from these directions subject to restrictions imposed by local Authorities.

2) If there are sufficient reasons or information to suspect that any persons could be infected with COVID-19 or may have come in contact with such person they shall be bound to immediately cooperate and comply with directions of the identified surveillance team. Any person refusing to take measures for prevention or treatment or refusing to cooperate with the directions of surveillance team shall be prosecuted under u/s 270 of Indian Penal Code, 1860 in addition to breach of this order.
3) All owners/in-charge of any premises shall immediately report to the nearest health facility or telephonically to 104 (Health Department’s Control Room) and 03592-284444 (District Control Room) regarding any person residing in the premises and suspected to have COVID-19 or having travel history to affected countries and shall be bound to cooperate with the identified surveillance team and any person refusing to cooperate with the directions of surveillance team shall be prosecuted under u/s 270 of Indian Penal Code, 1860 in addition to breach of this order.

All Sub-Divisional Magistrates of the districts are hereby authorized to pass appropriate orders and take necessary action against any person as deemed necessary for enforcing this order.

This order shall not be applicable in case of law enforcing agencies viz. Magistrates, Police Personnel, Army, CRPF and Para-military Forces and such other persons who are lawfully engaged in the maintenance of law and order.

This orders shall come into immediate effect in the entire area of East Sikkim District and shall remain valid till 15th April, 2020 or further orders.

Given under my hand and seal this 19th March, 2020.

Raj Yadav, IAS
District Magistrate
East Sikkim
DISTRICT COLLECTOR
EAST SIKKIM

Copy to:-
1) Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim ... for kind information, please.
2) Superintendent of Police, East.
3) All SDMs/East District.
4) CMO, East.
5) DIO/IPR, East.
6) Office copy.