

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

No. 1703/DRDM/DM/D2/2020/36

Dated: 20.04.2020

**ORDER**

**Sub:** DRDM - COVID-19 - Enforcement of Lock Down Measures-instruction issued - 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-I(A) dated 24.03.2020 of Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
  - iii. Order No.1703/DRDM/DM/D2/2020 Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> 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/D2/2020/23 Dated: 18.04.2020

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Whereas the Novel Corona Virus (COVID-19) situation which has been declared as a Disaster under the provision of Disaster Management Act, 2005, has prompted this District Administration to take several preventive measures involving all line department officials.

Whereas considering the plight of the general public particularly the daily wagers and labourers during lock down measures the Government of India and Government of Puducherry has extended relief amount through DBT in to the account of the family heads. (Including all relief, related).

Whereas it has been brought to the knowledge of the undersigned that the entire amount of the relief could not be withdrawn by a section of people from the banks / ATMs. Allegation of withholding/ debiting /charging of certain amount from the relief money is being reported.

Whereas it is pertinent to mention that any deduction or charging anything from the money intended for relief to people would amount to misappropriation and would be viewed seriously. Also it is punishable under section 53 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 as detailed below:

**52. Punishment for misappropriation of money or materials, etc. —**

*Whoever, being entrusted with any money or materials, or otherwise being, in custody of, or dominion over, any money or goods, meant for providing relief in any threatening disaster situation or disaster, misappropriates or appropriates for his own use or disposes of such money or materials or any part thereof or wilfully compels any other person so to do, shall on conviction be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, and also with fine.*

Therefore it is directed that the entire relief amount deposited into the account of all beneficiaries towards COVID-19 relief shall be fully released to the beneficiaries without any deduction or charges. Necessary arrangement may be made to ensure the disbursement of the money if any withheld in the past.



  
(Dr. ARUN.T, IAS)  
DISTRICT MAGISTRATE

To

1. All Bank Managers, Puducherry.
2. The Lead Bank Manager, Puducherry.

} For strict compliance

Copy to:

1. The PS to the Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Puducherry.
2. The PS to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Puducherry.
3. The PS to the Hon'ble Speaker, Puducherry.
4. The PS to the Hon'ble Ministers of Puducherry.
5. The Chief Secretary to Govt., Puducherry.
6. The Director General of Police, Puducherry.
7. The Development Commissioner, Puducherry.
8. The Secretary (Finance), Puducherry.