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ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Deccan Herald ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE: 14/7/20

Shops to open from 5 am till noon during B'luru lockdown

Govt allows home delivery of essentials and industries to function

BENGALURU, DHNS

Shops selling groceries, ration, fruits, vegetables and meat will open from 5 am to 12 noon during the 7-day lockdown in Bengaluru Urban and Rural districts beginning July 14.

The state government has, however, allowed home delivery of essential items "to minimise movement of individuals outside their homes," Chief Secretary T M Vijay Bhaskar said in the lockdown order issued on Monday.

The two districts will be locked down from 8 pm July 14 to 5 am July 22 to contain the spread of Covid-19 in the state capital and surrounding areas. Most government offices will be closed except those

that provide essential services and engaged in Covid-19 work.

Public transportation services will remain suspended during the period. This includes buses (KSRTC, BMTc, private), taxis, metro, auto-rickshaws, app-based cabs "except while hired for emergency and as permitted in these guidelines," Bhaskar said.

WHAT'S PERMITTED

- Shops selling ration, groceries, fruits, vegetables, milk, meat, fish to open only from 5 am to 12 noon.
- Banks, insurance offices, ATMs
- Hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, research labs
- E-commerce for delivery of food, medicines, medical equipment
- Industrial units requiring continuous process, establishments in SEZs or outside municipal limits and in industrial townships
- Construction activities where workers are available on site
- Intra-district (within Bengaluru area) movement of passenger vehicles and buses only in emergency cases or for permitted activities
- Office-goers can use office ID cards to commute to and from workplace

WHAT'S NOT

- Metro, taxis, autos except when hired for emergency and as permitted
- Dine-in at hotels and restaurants
- Theatres, malls, bars, gyms, swimming pools, parks
- All places of religious worship

Lockdown won't be extended in B'luru: CM

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on Monday made it clear that the government had no plans to extend the lockdown in Bengaluru Urban and Bengaluru Rural districts beyond July 22. "There is no proposal before the government to extend the lockdown in Bengaluru Urban and Rural districts. The chief minister requests citizens not to panic and cooperate with the government without paying heed to rumours," the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said. The Chief Minister's statement came after a meeting on Monday. **Details on Page 4**

Docs interview: Only 11 respond

BENGALURU, DHNS: Bengaluru is facing an acute shortage of doctors even as the city is seeing daily spikes of Covid-19 cases.

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagar Palike had called for interviews for doctors, offering an enhanced pay of Rs

60,000 per month.

Despite the offer, only 11 doctors turned up for the walk-in interview on Monday.

The BBMP had aimed to hire around 300 doctors for the BIEC Covid Care Centre. **Details on Page 2**

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Short lockdowns of not much use: Scientists

SHORT LOCKDOWNS,
FROM PAGE 1

A group of more than 500 scientists from different institutions, the ISRC carried out modelling studies on the pandemic in India.

The researchers concede that impact of a lockdown can't be simulated accurately because how people would comply with the norms is an unknown variable. The same is also true for enforcement of the norms by local administrations.

"Regional lockdowns have a very limited purpose," Sitabhra Sinha, professor at the Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai, told *DH*. "Essentially, they are meant to reduce the growth rate temporarily so that the numbers can be kept at manageable levels. Breaking the chain of infection is difficult with only lockdowns, as we have already learnt."

According to Guttal, lockdowns by themselves are of very little help "unless they are used to ramp up the in-

frastructure together with increased rates of testing and better quarantining". "This is particularly true of the short-term lockdowns we are seeing now," he said.

The good news, however, is that national R value is now down to 1.11, and has been around this low value from June 10, except for a short period in July 2-5 during which it had risen to 1.19, according to a statistical model being run by Sinha.

The reproductive number (R) represents the number of per-

sons one infected person can on average transmit the infection. An R value of 1.9 implies that 10 persons will on average cause 19 infections. In April, India had an R value of 1.82.

"The decline in the R value is encouraging for the country as a whole, even if there are local high growth in some regions because it suggests that containing the disease within such high growth spots by reducing travel in and out of these districts may allow further control over the pandemic," Sinha added.