



INSTRUCTIONS FOR SELECTED PUBLIC ACTIVITIES/WORK SETTINGS FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF COVID- 19

The instruction notes are given for a range of public activities and work settings. Some sectors such as tourism, large shopping malls, event management, etc. would require reference to several instruction notes.

The Instructions are subject to overall permission given by the Ministry of Health to resume functions (totally/selected).

Each instruction note is issued by the Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Indigenous Medical Services and are for the establishment/owner/ responsible authority to follow in prevention of transmission of COVID-19.



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TOWARDS A NEW NORMAL



MINISTRY OF HEALTH
AND INDIGENOUS
MEDICAL SERVICES



World Health
Organization



GOVERNMENT MEDICAL
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38. Use of public buses

Under the present situation in response to COVID-19, the number of passengers travelling in public buses will be subject to restriction to be able to maintain physical distancing and other safety precautions should be practiced.

Specific message/ Instruction/s

For the owner/driver/conductor/coordinators at main bus stands;

- Should ensure that maximum number allowed by Health Ministry shall be followed. With improving situation the allowed occupancy will be informed by the Ministry of Health.
- None of passengers should be standing inside the bus.
- Should ensure that two passengers are not seated in adjacent seats in 2 or 3 seat rows
- Should ensure that all windows are open inside the buses and air-conditioning systems in luxury buses are switched off
- Should ensure that **all passengers are wearing face masks**
- Ensure that hand washing facilities are available at main bus stands
- Make available personal hand sanitizer bottles to drivers and conductors
- If possible, install wall-mounted hand sanitizers at the entrance of the bus
- Ensure that all buses are cleaned every night. It can be done using regular detergents/soap and water.
- Provide adequate time to get into the vehicle and get down from it in order to practice non touch technique inside the vehicle/during the travel.
- Adopt unidirectional flow inside the vehicle - Identified doors for entry and exit
- You are required to fill the provided Assurance form, indicating compliance with the instructions given. The original of the Assurance form should be submitted to the area Medical Officer of Health. A copy of the same should be sent to the local government authority (municipal council/ urban council/ pradeshiya sabha) and another copy should be kept with you. The owner/ driver is responsible to ensure that the above guidelines are strictly adhered to.

For the passengers;

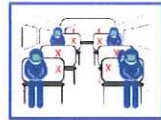
- Wait in a queue in the bus stand maintaining 1-meter distance from each other
- A face mask should be worn properly
- If facilities are available, wash your hands with soap and water or disinfect using hand sanitizers before entering the bus
- Ensure that 1-meter distance is maintained inside the bus by not sitting in adjacent seats.
- Do not enter bus if the permitted capacity is exceeded, for your own safety
- Minimize the bags and goods that are taken
- Try not to touch the mobile phone inside the bus as much as possible
- Try to minimize the handling of cash by paying the exact amount
- Do not touch, frequently touched surfaces unnecessarily E.g. armrests, seats, doors, bars etc.
- Wash hands after travelling in the bus with soap and water for at least for 20 seconds
- Avoid the use of buses, even if you have minor respiratory symptoms



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Method/s of instruction;

- Mass media
- Announce through the public address systems at major bus stations
- All buses to have the relevant instructions displayed at the entrance



Director General of Health Services

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28/05/2020 Ministry of Health & Indigenous Medicine Services

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