

Government of West Bengal
NABANNA
Howrah

Memo No. 675-CS/2021

Date:- 01/10/2021

Subject: General Guidelines for Durga Puja 2021

This year Puja is being organized and celebrated in the middle of this unprecedented pandemic. This demands proper and adequate health safety measures for the citizens. Puja Committees must ensure the health and safety norms for themselves and for the participants and visitors.

In pursuance of the discussions and the resolutions in the Co-ordination Meeting of Government of West Bengal authorities with Durga Puja organizers/club representatives on 07-09-2021 at Netaji Indoor Stadium, Kolkata, following guidelines are hereby notified for information and necessary action:

1. Spacious Open Pandals with Separate Entry-Exit

Pandals shall have to be spacious and should be kept open from all sides. If in case it becomes essential to have closed ceiling, the sides will have to be kept open. Pandals must keep adequate space and arrangements for ensuring physical distancing in terms of the existing COVID 19 pandemic norms. There should be separate Entry and Exit arrangements with separate gates. Mingling and crowding should be avoided at all places. Floor markings and other signages should be made on entry and exit routes and assembly points to ensure compliance of physical distancing norms.

2. Compulsory Masks and Hand Sanitizer

Use of masks shall be compulsory for all visitors visiting the pandals. To meet any exigency, organisers shall make adequate arrangements for distribution of masks in close vicinity of the pandal to the visitors who inadvertently come to the pandal premises without wearing masks. Use and availability of hand sanitizer should similarly be made compulsory in the pandal premises and neighbourhood.

3. Volunteers and Decongested Rituals

Puja organizers must keep volunteers in adequate numbers for ensuring compliance of the norms of physical distancing among visitors, for enforcing wearing of masks and use of hand sanitizers. Volunteers themselves should wear face masks and face shields for safety.

Keeping in view the health safety of participants and organizers, *Anjali*, *Prasad Bitaran* or *Sindoor Khela* should be organized by Puja Committees in a planned manner and to the extent possible in smaller groups with spaced out timings in a staggered way. Priests should use microphones to utter the *mantra* so that the sound reaches worshippers standing even far away and people do not have to assemble closely in small spaces. Devotees may be encouraged to offer *Anjali* with flowers brought from homes, so that flower collection points in the pandals do not become congestion-points.

4. No Cultural Programme

Cultural programmes in/near the Puja pandal premises shall not be allowed.

5. Low-key Award Judging

Judges for various Puja award programmes should not be allowed to enter Puja premises in huge convoys and large numbers. No more than two cars of judges at a time should be allowed to visit a pandal. Ideally all visits for 'judging' the Pujas should be virtual and physical visits should be confirmed to the lean hours (between 10 AM and 3 PM).

6. Emphasis on Electronic and Social Media

Electronic and social media should be used by the organizers and public authorities to make people aware to avoid large assembly and crowding on roads and near pandals. Organisers/volunteers and police personnel on duty shall facilitate continuous movement of visitors to avoid unnecessary crowding.

7. Low-key Inaugurations and Immersions

Inaugurations and immersions should be low-key and minimalist events without much pomp and grandeur. Wherever possible, inauguration should be in virtual mode. In all cases, masks, sanitizers, physical distancing

and no-crowd principle shall be followed. Pre-planned allocation of time of Ghat slots to different Puja Committees should be strictly adhered to. Ghats shall be properly sanitised before and during immersions with arrangements that facilitate the required physical distancing norms under the current situation. *Protima* must be taken to the ghats directly without any stopover at any place avoiding unnecessary diversions.

8. Online Permission

Physical contacts must be avoided in the permission-obtaining procedures also. Online system for required permission should be arranged by the concerned authorities.

9. Spacing out the festivities over larger number of days

Adherence to the physical distancing norms and other health safety measures that are required to be ensured during the current times may need spacing out the festival over larger number of days. Puja Committees should make necessary advance planning that facilitates visit to Puja pandals from *Tritia* itself.

10. No Carnival

In the context of the pandemic and the need to have physical distancing norms, the State immersion carnival shall not be held this year. In similar vein, melas and carnivals near Puja pandals shall not be allowed.

11. Assistance from Government and other public and private organisations

Since public health management in the pandemic time will entail greater costs and energies for the organisers, the State Government and other public and private organisations will help the Puja Committees/ organisers in the following manner:

- a) The State Government Fire Service authorities shall not charge any fees for their services. The State shall provide these emergency services free of cost.
- b) The local bodies (urban and rural) shall also provide their services free of cost, and no fee/charge shall be levied on any Puja Committee/organisers on this account.

- c) Concessional Power (at the rate of 50%) shall be provided by the power utility organisations. Separate notifications shall be issued by respective organisations in this regard.
- d) A onetime financial assistance @Rs.50,000 per club will be provided by the State Government for enabling them to undertake the required arrangements to address the current pandemic situation, in addition to the other customary public services. The details will be elaborated in the government order that would follow.
- e) The administration/ police authorities shall provide necessary help and assistance to all Puja Committees/organisers as would be required by them.

BE SAFE and STAY SAFE



Chief Secretary

Government of West Bengal
Office of the District Magistrate,
M.V Section,
Purba Bardhaman

NOTIFICATION

Durga Puja festival /Laxmi Puja and immersion are going to be celebrated on and from 08.10.2021 to 23.10.2021. Under the above circumstances, it is necessary to prevent dangerous obstruction and inconvenience to the public in general while enjoying Durga Puja/Laxmi Puja festival and immersion. Restriction on movement of all kinds of Kolkata bound Goods Vehicles on NH-2 & other Roads during the period between 08.10.2021 to 23.10.2021 is urgently required as reported by the Superintendent of Police, Purba Bardhaman vide his Memo No: 702/Tr/BWN, Dated: 04.10.2021.

Therefore, I, Smt. Priyanka Singla, IAS, District Magistrate & Collector, Purba Bardhaman do hereby promulgate this order under section 115,117,126 and 128 of M.V Act, 1988 read with Sub-Section 1 of section 4 of WBTR Act, imposing restriction on movement of all kinds of Kolkata bound Good Vehicles on NH-2 and other Roads as below mentioned places on and from 08.10.2021 to 23.10.2021 for smooth movement of pilgrims / Common people within Purba Bardhaman District.

Date & Time for vehicle restriction during Durga Puja days.

Tritiya	From 14.00 hrs. on 08.10.2021 to 00:01 hrs. on 09.10.2021
Chaturthi	From 13.00 hrs. on 09.10.2021 to 02:00 hrs. on 10.10.2021
Panchami	From 13.00 hrs. on 10.10.2021 to 02:00 hrs. on 11.10.2021
Sasti	From 13.00 hrs. on 11.10.2021 to 03:00 hrs. on 12.10.2021
Saptami	From 13.00 hrs. on 12.10.2021 to 04:00 hrs. on 13.10.2021
Astami	From 05:00 hrs. to 12:00 hrs on 13.10.2021 (For Kumari Puja) Again From 13.00 hrs. on 13.10.2021 to 04:00 hrs on 14.10.2021.
Navami	From 13.00 hrs. on 14.10.2021 to 04:00 hrs. on 15.10.2021.

Durga Puja Immersion

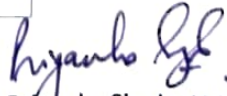
1st Day of Durga Puja Immersion	From 13.00 hrs. on 15.10.2021 to 05:00 hrs. on 16.10.2021.
2 nd Day of Durga Puja Immersion	From 13.00 hrs. on 16.10.2021 to 05:00 hrs. on 17.10.2021.
3 rd Day of Durga Puja Immersion	From 13.00 hrs. on 17.10.2021 to 05:00 hrs. on 18.10.2021.
4 th & Final Day of Durga Puja Immersion	From 13.00 hrs. on 18.10.2021 to 05:00 hrs. on 19.10.2021.

Laxmi Puja Immersion.

1 st Day of Laxmi Puja Immersion	From 13.00 hrs on 21.10.2021 to 04:00 hrs on 22.10.2021
2 nd & Final Day of Laxmi Puja Immersion.	From 13.00 hrs on 22.10.2021 to 04:00 hrs on 23.10.2021

Place of Restriction:-

Point of Restriction	Name of Police Station
Nabagram Truck Lay	Jamalpur P.S
Jougram	Jamalpur P.S
Sardanga More (Service Road)	Memari P.S
Saktigarh Truck Lay	Saktigarh P.S
Fagupur Truck Lay	Burdwan P.S
Kulgoria	Galsi P.S
Behedia	Aushgram P.S
Futisanko	Ketugram P.S
Metedanga	Kahandaghosh P.S
Moniyari	Madhabdihi P.S



Priyanka Singla, IAS
District Magistrate & Collector,
Purba Bardhaman.

Memo No: 1626/1(8)/MV/PBDN

Dated: 07/10/2021.

Copy forwarded for information and taking necessary action to the:-

1. Superintendent of Police, Purba Bardhaman.
- 2-5) Sub-Divisional Officer, Sadar (North / South), Kalna & Katwa, Purba Bardhaman.
6. Chairperson, Board of Administrator, Burdwan Municipality.
7. Deputy Superintendent of Police (Traffic), Purba Bardhaman.
7. CA to Addl. District Magistrate (MV), Purba Bardhaman.


Priyanka Singla, IAS
District Magistrate & Collector,
Purba Bardhaman.

NOTIFICATION

Durga Puja festival and immersion is going to be celebrated on and from 11.10.2021 to 18.10.2021 at different parts of Purba Bardhaman District. Under the above circumstances, it is necessary to prevent dangerous obstruction and inconvenience to the public in general while enjoying Durga Puja festival. Restriction on movement of all kinds of goods vehicles as well as buses during the period between 11.10.2021 to 18.10.2021 at various points in Purba Bardhaman District is required, as reported by the Superintendent of Police, Purba Bardhaman vide his memo no. 703/Tr/Bwn. dated 04.10.2021.

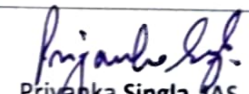
Therefore, I, Smt. Priyanka Singla, IAS, District Magistrate & Collector, Purba Bardhaman do hereby promulgate this order under section 115,117,126 and 128 of M.V Act 1988 read with Sub-Section 1 of section 4 of WBTR Act. imposing restriction on movement all kinds of goods vehicles as well as buses during the period between 11.10.2021 to 18.10.2021 for smooth movement of pilgrims/common people within Purba Bardhaman Town as mentioned below:-

• **Restriction schedule:-**

- 01) For Goods vehicles:- on & from 11.10.21 to 18.10.21 from 15.00 hrs to 04.00 hrs (Next day).
02) For Buses:- on & from 11.10.21 to 15.10.21 from 16.30 hrs to 03.00 hrs (Next day)

Restriction Point.

Name of Road	Type of Vehicle	Point of interception	Period & Time
G.T. Road	Bus + All kinds of goods vehicles	Alisha Bus Stand	For goods vehicles:- Restriction on & from 11.10.2021 to 19.10.2021 from 15.00 to 04.00 hrs.(Next Day) For Buses:- Restriction on & from 11.10.2021 to 15.10.2021 from 16.30 to 03.00 hrs.(Next Day)
On NH-2 Road	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	Palla More	-DO-
On NH-2 Road	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	D V C More	-DO-
On NH-2 Road	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	Becharhat More	-DO-
On NH-2 Road	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	Damodar Cold Store	-DO-
On NH-2 Road	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	Jhilpibagan More	-DO-
Arambagh Burdwan Road.	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	Telipukur More	-DO-
On NH-2 Road	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	Tejganj More	-DO-
On NH-2 Road	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	Anjir Bagan	-DO-
On NH-2 Road	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	Rath Tala More	-DO-
On NH-2 Road	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	Lakurdi More	-DO-
On NH-2 Road	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	Gqda More	-DO-
G.T.Road	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	Near NH-2B crossing	-DO-
Katwa Road upto Station More	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	Bhotar Par	-DO-
Kalna Road	Bus + All Types of goods vehicle	M.B.C. Technical College More	-DO-


Priyanka Singla, IAS
District Magistrate & Collector,
Purba Bardhaman.

Memo No: 1627/1(6)/MV/PBDN

Dated: 07/10/2021.

Copy forwarded for information and taking necessary action to the:-

1. Superintendent of Police, Purba Bardhaman.
- 2-3) Sub-Divisional Officer, Sadar (North / South), Purba Bardhaman.
4. Chairperson, Board of Administrator, Burdwan Municipality.
5. Deputy Superintendent of Police (Traffic), Purba Bardhaman.
6. CA to Addl. District Magistrate (MV), Purba Bardhaman.


Priyanka Singla, IAS
District Magistrate & Collector,
Purba Bardhaman.