To

1. The Air India Booking Office, Bengaluru & Cochin.
2. The Base Manager, Pawan Hans Ltd, Kavaratti.

Sub: - COVID-19- Movement of persons from Lakshadweep and vice versa- Instructions - issued

2. SOP F.No. E/21/7/2020 – Col dated 18.05.2020

Sir,

To prevent Lakshadweep from COVID infections, the Lakshadweep Administration has taken a series of proactive measures. The Administration has issued directions to regulate entry of non-islanders to Lakshadweep by modifying the procedure for issuing entry permit vide reference first cited. We have also issued an SOP for movement of people from Lakshadweep and vice versa vide reference 2nd cited.

Now as per MHA order dated 20th May, 2020, the domestic Air travel passage is deleted from the list of prohibited activities. If Alliance Air flight services are started to Agatti from Bengaluru via Kochi, the instructions contain in the above mentioned references may please be strictly adhered to. Whenever flight service resumes, please intimate the same to the undersigned and follow the directives.

1. Only those passengers with a confirmed a COVID-19 negative report (not later than two days before the flight) shall be allowed to board.
2. Additional District Magistrate (ADM) has been made the Nodal Authority for issuing permits. All permits issued before 18th March, 2020 ceased to be functional. Therefore, allow passengers with a valid permit issued by ADM after 18th March, 2020.

3. It is pertinent to mention that the persons who are employed in Union Territory of Lakshadweep and the Native Islanders are not required to carry the Entry Permit. They will have only to show the ID Card.

Yours faithfully,

Vijendra Singh Rawat, IAS
Collector and Chairman DDMA

Copy to:

1. The Resident Commissioner, New Delhi.
2. The Director Port Shipping & Aviation, Kavaratti.
4. The Superintendent of Police, Kavaratti.
The whole nation is trying to contain the spreading of the Corona virus. The islands of UTL are isolated and medical facilities are limited. Therefore, the following steps to control/prevent the outbreak of Corona virus will be taken.

a. From 18th March, 2020 onwards the Additional District Magistrate (ADM) will be the single point Officer authorized for issuing entry permit to the UTL islands. The DC’s/SDO’s will not attest declaration for entry permit requests. All application for fresh permit will be dealt by Additional District Magistrate, Collectorate, Kavaratti until further orders.

b. The Executive Engineer, LPWD, Kochi & Executive Engineer (PMU), LPWD, Kavaratti will not issue any fresh permits. The permits for existing workers (those who are still in islands) can be extended up to two (2) months by the Superintending Engineer, LPWD as per requirements and case to case basis. No fresh entry permit will be issued from Executive Engineer, LPWD, Kochi & Executive Engineer (PMU), LPWD, Kavaratti until further orders.

c. The Administrative Officer, Kochi will not issue any kind of entry permit until further orders. In case of an emergency, the permit application shall be forwarded to the Additional District, Collectorate, Kavaratti.

d. All existing issued permits before, 18th of March 2020 will ceased to be functional and entry in to the UTL islands on the basis of permits prior to this date would not be permitted. The issued permit holders have to submit fresh renewal applications for the same. The Port will refund the ticket cancellation fee in full.

e. Director Health Services (DHS) is mandated to properly screen and checkup all the permit holders entering the islands of UTL and take adequate measures in case anyone is having Corona virus symptoms.

To,

All HODs/HOOs in U.T of Lakshadweep.

Copy to:

1. PA to Hon’ble Administrator / Advisor / All Secretaries / Sr. Superintendent of Police / MD(LDCL) Kavaratti.
2. Additional District Magistrate, Kavaratti & DC/SDO’s in all islands.
3. Superintending Engineer, LPWD, Kavaratti.
4. Director Health Services, Kavaratti.
5. Director, Port Shipping & Aviation, Kavaratti.
6. Administrative Officer, Kochi
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR THE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE FROM MAINLAND AND VICE VERSA:

To prevent Lakshadweep from COVID-19 virus infection the following SOP is being issued under section 16 of “The Lakshadweep Epidemic Disease, COVID-19 Regulations 2020” and the relevant provisions of Disaster Management Act, 2005.

Lakshadweep Administration has brought people from Lakshadweep who were stranded and wanted to return to their islands from mainland after getting tested in ICMR approved labs. The last ship ferrying the islanders returned to Lakshadweep on 15th May, 2020 with 32 passengers. Similarly, mainland people who were stranded in Lakshadweep and wanted to return were also sent to mainland after tying-up with Kerala Government and respective states Governments.

2. Now, Lakshadweep Administration will organize ship schedule between various islands and mainland to transport only those people who
have to go for medical treatment or any other urgent needs as per the
guidelines of MHA and policy followed by respective state governments.

3. As the number of Corona positive cases are still being reported in
mainland, the people of Lakshadweep are advised to go to mainland only if
it is absolutely essential like for medical treatment. Otherwise, they risk
acquiring infection.

4. Hereafter and till Corona pandemic in Kerala, Karnataka and other
parts of the country exists, with a view to protect the people of Lakshadweep
from Corona Virus infection, the following protocol will be followed by UTL
Administration for the movement of people from Lakshadweep to mainland
and vice versa:

A. Movement of people from Lakshadweep to Kerala:

1. Following category of people will be allowed to travel to Kerala
without any prior reference to Kerala Government.

i. Patients referred for specialized treatment to mainland with
maximum of two escorts.

ii. Officials of Lakshadweep Administration deputed for any official
duty.

iii. Officials of Lakshadweep Administration proceeding on leave to
their hometown in mainland or on transfer to mainland.
2. Following category of people will be allowed to travel to Kerala with prior concurrence of Kerala Government.

i. Students studying in Kerala after the educational institutions reopen.

ii. Teachers serving in Kerala after schools reopen.

iii. Persons from Lakshadweep employed in the mainland.

iv. Any other person who has to travel for any other specific urgent work.

B. Movement of people from Kerala to Lakshadweep Islands:

i. As Lakshadweep has so far remained free from any Corona infection. The policy of Lakshadweep Administration is to ensure that no Corona virus infected person is able to reach Lakshadweep.

ii. Hence, every person coming to Lakshadweep from mainland must carry a Corona negative certificate obtained not earlier than two days prior to travel either from a government testing centre or any ICMR approved private testing Lab. After coming to islands, they will be strictly undergoing 14 days home quarantine with their household members.

iii. In case of officials of Lakshadweep Administration proceeding to mainland on official duty, the expenses of their Corona testing during return journey will be borne by the Lakshadweep Administration.

iv. Similarly, cost of testing of any Govt. of India official or officials from any State Government or Govt. Public Sector undertakings,
including Defence personals coming to Lakshadweep on official duty will also be borne by the Lakshadweep Administration.

v. Cost on testing of any service providers coming to Lakshadweep in connection with any essential services like power supply, health service, drinking water supply, etc. would be borne by Lakshadweep Administration for such persons.

vi. In respect of officials returning from leave, the concerned official will himself have to bear the cost of testing.

vii. For workers coming to Lakshadweep on permit, the cost of testing will be borne by the individuals / firms sponsoring the permit for such people.

viii. For persons belonging to Priority House Hold (PHH)/BPL will be borne by Lakshadweep Administration.

ix. For all other persons the individual concerned will have to bear the cost of Corona testing.

x. The persons coming from areas categorized as Red Zone in Kerala or any zone from other states infected by Corona Pandemic will be quarantined in Kochi for 7 days. It will be followed by testing and if found negative then only will be allowed to travel to islands. On their arrival to the islands they will again be put to 14 days home quarantine along with household members.

xi. The persons from Lakshadweep returning from a foreign country will be quarantined in Kochi for 14 days followed by Corona testing and if found negative will be allowed to travel to the islands and then home quarantine for a further period of 14 days along with household members after their arrival to Lakshadweep Islands.
However, Government of India officials, other government officials and service providers coming for any urgent work may not be put to quarantine in Kochi and in Lakshadweep. However, they would also need a COVID-19 negative report. Further, their interaction with general public will be avoided and interaction with even Government officials will be minimal and by following all COVID-19 related guidelines, like social distancing, use of masks, etc.

Administration reserve the right to modify the conditions specified in the SOP, depending upon the emergent situation.

This issued with the approval of Hon’ble Administrator, UTL

Vijendra Singh Rawat IAS
Collector & Chairman DDMA

To
All concerned.

Copy to:
1. PA to Hon’ble Administrator, UTL.
2. PA to all Secretaries, UTL.
3. Superintendent of Police, UTL.
4. MD, LDCL, Kavaratti.
5. Administrative Officer, Kochi.
6. DC/SDOs in islands.