

**MOST URGENT / TOP PRIORITY**



No. SO (EP&C) 1-8/2020  
**GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB  
PRIMARY & SECONDARY HEALTHCARE  
DEPARTMENT**

Dated Lahore the 27<sup>th</sup> Jul, 2020

To

1. All Commissioners in Punjab
2. All Deputy Commissioners in Punjab
3. All Chief Executive Officers, District Health Authorities in Punjab

Subject: **SOPs FOR EID UL ADHA, TO PREVENT COVID-19 SPREAD.**

In the wake of COVID-19 situation and considering social activities to fulfil *Eid ul Azha* including *Eid* prayer and *Qurbani* obligations, the Primary & Secondary Healthcare Department (P&SHD), on the recommendations of Technical Working Group (TWG), is pleased to issue 'Standard Operating Procedures' (SOPs) to prevent COVID-19 spread as detailed below:

**BASIC PRINCIPLE**

COVID-19 is a highly transmissible disease which spreads through respiratory droplets produced during coughing, sneezing and talking of the infected person including a vast majority asymptomatic people. The droplets may contaminate the surfaces and hands. Touching eyes, mouth and nose with contaminated hands transmits the virus. Public at large is required to follow precautionary measures mentioned in the SOPs for Cattle Markets issued by Primary & Secondary Healthcare Department vide letter No SO (EP&C) 1-8/2020 dated 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020 (annexed herewith) while buying, selling, transporting and handling of animals. In addition to the said SOPs, following precautions are to be adopted: -

**1. HAND HYGIENE**

- a. Handwashing/sanitization facilities (water and soap or 60-80% alcohol based sanitizer) should be provided at entry and exit points of public places, slaughter houses and other communal visit places.

- b. Frequent hand washing with soap (for 40 seconds)/ sanitization practices (rub hands for 20 seconds) should be followed especially at entry and exit of home, public place, mosque, *Eid Gah*, slaughter house and touching commonly shared surfaces like door handles, table, furniture, etc.
- c. Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth, especially when hands are not clean.
- d. Perform ablution (*Wuddo*) at home while coming for *Eid* prayers.
- e. Take care of hand hygiene while division and distribution of meat.

## **2. RESPIRATORY HYGIENE (ETIQUETTES)**

- a. Wear face mask or cover face with covering while going to mosque, *Eid Gah*, slaughter house, market or other communal visit points.
- b. Never share mask or face covering.
- c. Avoid touching the insides of a mask/face covering.
- d. If the mask is soiled or becomes wet, discard it in a bin safely.

## **3. SOCIAL (PHYSICAL) DISTANCING**

- a. *Eid* prayers should preferably be offered at open space like grounds, parks, etc. which may allow free space for social distancing.
- b. Limit the *Eid* prayers and gathering time to 40 minutes.
- c. Separate entrance and exit should be made in a one-way system to avoid crowding at mosque, *Eid Gah* and slaughter houses, where feasible.
- d. Ensure discipline of inter-person spatial distance of 6 feet at entry, exit, work/worship/activity at mosque, *Eid Gah*, slaughter house, market, family gathering and other communal visit places. Chalking and compliance of social distancing marks should be implemented.
- e. Handshake, hugging and physical contact is not permissible at the *Eid* festival to prevent COVID-19 infection spread.
- f. Online/telephonic appointments should be practiced to minimize the wait time at slaughter houses.
- g. Limit the entry at slaughter houses and other communal visit points to essential visitors. Companions, children elderly and sick should be discouraged.
- h. Unnecessary travel, excursions, large social gatherings, fun activities, sport matches and other crowded gathering should be avoided.



- i. Social visits at *Eid* and general family get-togethers should be avoided.
- j. Communal *Qurbani* arrangements by reputed organizations may be preferred over at-home individual *Qurbani*.
- k. Keep children and elderly away from the place of animal dressing, if *Qurbani* is processed at home.

#### **4. CLEANLINESS AND DISINFECTION**

- a. Windows and doors of the mosques/*Eid Gah* and other communal places in use during *Eid* festival should be kept opened for good ventilation during the duration of the prayer.
- b. No carpets or mats to be laid down in mosques.
- c. Clean mosque floors by washing with detergent and water.
- d. Worshippers should bring their own prayer mat/*Musalla*.
- e. The site of slaughtering should be away from general public and living areas.
- f. Floor and other high touch surfaces like furniture, door handles, etc. should be cleaned with detergent and disinfected with Sodium Hypochlorite 0.05% solution frequently.
- g. Slaughtering and dressing tools (knives, etc.) should be cleaned with detergent before use.
- h. Animal slaughtering and dressing participants should not exchange their tools unless tools are properly cleaned.
- i. Where possible, use disposable cloth/towels and disposable mop heads. Alternatively, ensure used cloths and mop heads are laundered and dried after use to minimize contamination.
- j. Cleanliness and disinfection of toilets and commonly used shared places should be ensured.
- k. Proper waste collection arrangements should be ensured.
- l. Fresh air entry and exhaust should be ensured in mosques and slaughter houses.
- m. Doors of slaughter houses should remain open to avoid surface sharing, or deploy staff to open the door for visitors.



- n. Don't share cellphone to make or listen calls unless wiped with alcohol (sprit swab).

**5. HEALTH STATUS AND PROTECTION MEASURES**

- a. Fever with cough and sore throat are symptoms of COVID-19. If anybody suffers from such symptoms, please call 1033 for guidance.
- b. Thermal scanners should be provided at entry of mosque, *Eid Gah*, and slaughter houses to screen people with fever.
- c. People suffering from cough should be immediately separated and referred for medical checkup.
- d. Children and senior citizen should be advised to stay home and shall not visit slaughter houses/animal dressing place if *Qurbani* is performed at home.

**6. COVID-19 AWARENESS ACTIVITIES**

- a. Display awareness standees on COVID-19 prevention at entries of mosque/*Eid Gah* and slaughter houses.
- b. Imams should deliver sermons on COVID-19 prevention and mobilize the communities to respect SOPs issued by Government.

  
**CAPTAIN (R) MUHAMMAD USMAN**  
Secretary

**No.& Date Even.**

A copy is forwarded for information and further necessary action to:

1. Minister for SHC&ME and P&SHC Departments Punjab.
2. Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab.
3. Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister Punjab.
4. Secretary, SHC&ME Department, Government of Punjab.
5. Special Secretaries, SHC&ME and P&SHC Departments
6. Additional Secretaries (Tech), SHC&ME and P&SHC Departments.
7. Director General Health Services, Punjab, Lahore.
8. All Divisional Directors Health Services in Punjab.
9. Master File.