

File No: Kar-MoFHW-Corona-Lockdown-1

Date: Saturday, May 18, 2020

**APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 6(1)
OF THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2005**

To:

Sri. Jawaid Akhtar, IAS,
Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Karnataka, Health & Family Welfare Services,
#105, I Floor, Vikas Soudha, Bangalore - 560 001.

- 1. Please quote our file reference in all your replies**
- 2. Please permit me to inspect files held by you relevant to the subject matter of this RTI application**
- 3. Please reply in the language of the application, namely, English**

1. Full name of the applicant	Mathew Thomas
2. Address	Villa # 2, 'Aristos', 'Sobha City, Bangalore 560077; ☎ : Mobile: 98800-00401; ✉ : mathew.111938@gmail.com
3. Details of the information/ documents required: Please furnish :	<p>As per Section 4 (1) (c) and (d) of RTI Act "publish all relevant facts while formulating important policies or announcing decisions which affect public and provide reasons for its administrative or quasi-judicial decisions to affected persons."</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Please give government's reasons for lockdown of economic and social activity from 24-03-2020.Copy of any document containing expert opinions of immunologists, epidemiologists or virologists recommending lockdown as a way of preventing spread of corona virus.Copy of any document giving views of experts, as mentioned above, for making wearing of masks compulsory. [I have attached a document giving the World Health Organization's view that there is no evidence for or against use of masks (medical or other) and recommendations of only four (4) categories of persons who are to use masks.]Copy of any document showing that the government took into consideration the damage to the economy and the livelihoods of millions of people by locking down all economic and social activity BEFORE the decision to lockdown was made.Copy of any document showing that the Health and Family Welfare Services brought to the notice of the Chief-minister the facts in sub-paragraphs a. b. and c. above.
4. Year to which the document pertains	2019 to 15-05-2020
5. Designation and address of the Public Information Officer	Sri. Jawaid Akhtar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Karnataka, Health & Family Welfare Services, #105, I Floor, Vikas Soudha, Bangalore - 560 001.

	☎ : 080-22255324, 080-22034234, Fax:080-22353916, 080-25356761(R) ✉ : prs-hfw@karnataka.gov.in
6. Particulars of initial fee of Rs. 10 paid	Indian Postal Order Number: 49F 263599

BANGALORE
10th May-2020

SIGNATURE OF THE APPLICANT

1. FAQ from WHO on wearing masks for COVID-19.

1. First name of the applicant	Matthew Thomas
2. Address	Villa W 2, Anand, 5th Cross, Bangalore 560077
3. Details of the information documents required. Please furnish:	☎ : Mobile: 98800-00401 ✉ : matthew.11930@gmail.com
4. Year to which the document pertains	2019 to 15-05-2020
5. Designation and address of the Public Information Officer	St. Jawad Akhtar IAS Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Karnataka Health & Family Welfare Services 4105 1 Floor, Vile Parle East, Bangalore - 560 001

FAQ from WHO on Wearing Masks for COVID-19

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses>

Does WHO recommend wearing medical masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19?

Currently, there is not enough evidence for or against the use of masks (medical or other) in healthy individuals in the wider community. However, WHO is actively studying the rapidly evolving science on masks and continuously updates its guidance.

Medical masks are recommended primarily in health care settings, but can be considered in other circumstances (see below). Medical masks should be combined with other key infection prevention and control measures such as hand hygiene and physical distancing.

Healthcare workers

Why? Medical masks and respirators such as N95, FFP2 or equivalent are recommended for and should be reserved for, healthcare workers while giving care to patients. Close contact with people with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and their surrounding environment are the main routes of transmission, which means healthcare workers are the most exposed.

People who are sick and exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19

Why? Anyone who is sick, with mild symptoms such as muscle aches, slight cough, sore throat or fatigue, should isolate at home and use a medical mask according to WHO's recommendation on home care of patients with suspected COVID-19. Coughing, sneezing or talking can generate droplets that cause can spread the infection. These droplets can reach the face of others nearby and land on the surrounding environment. If an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks while wearing a medical mask, this can help to protect those nearby from infection. If a sick person needs to go to a health facility they should wear a medical mask.

Anyone taking care of a person at home who is sick with COVID-19

Why? Those caring for individuals who are sick with COVID-19 should wear a medical mask for protection. Again, close, frequent and prolonged contact with someone with COVID-19 puts caretakers at high risk. National decision makers may also choose to recommend medical mask use for certain individuals using a risk-based approach. This approach takes into consideration the purpose of the mask, risk of exposure and vulnerability of the wearer, the setting, the feasibility of use and the types of masks to be considered.

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MATHEW THOMAS

VILLA #2, ARISTOS, SOBA CITY,

BANGALORE - 580077

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CP KAI YANANAGAR S O (540003)

Counter No:3, 21/05/2020, 13:24

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Kalyananagar S.O	21/05/2020 13:27:22	560001	17.70	Inland Speed Post	Bengaluru G.P.O.	26/05/2020 17:23:11

Event Details For : EK889800222IN

Current Status : Item Delivery Confirmed

Date	Time	Office	Event
26/05/2020	17:23:11	Bengaluru G.P.O.	Item Delivery Confirmed
26/05/2020	12:59:17	Bengaluru G.P.O.	Out for Delivery
23/05/2020	10:46:42	Bengaluru G.P.O.	Item Received
23/05/2020	10:02:09	Bengaluru NSH	Item Dispatched
23/05/2020	02:09:47	Bengaluru NSH	Item Bagged
22/05/2020	20:09:59	Bengaluru NSH	Item Received
21/05/2020	15:20:12	Kalyananagar S.O	Item Dispatched
21/05/2020	15:06:45	Kalyananagar S.O	Item Bagged
21/05/2020	13:27:22	Kalyananagar S.O	Item Booked

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