



**COVID-19 (nCorona) Virus Outbreak Control and Prevention State Cell**  
**Health & Family Welfare Department**  
**Government of Kerala**

**ADVISORY ON COVID-19 SCREENING AND TESTING OF OFFICERS, STAFF AND SECURITY PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN ELECTION DUTIES**

**NO.31/F2/2020 HEALTH- 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020.**

The following advisory is issued with regard to the COVID-19 screening and testing of officers, staff and security personnel involved in election duties:

1. All personnel involved in the conduct of the election process should undergo daily screening at the offices for symptoms of COVID-19 like fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea etc. The head of the offices shall do necessary arrangement of symptom surveillance of the officers daily for any of the symptoms mentioned above. Daily temperature screening and recording should be made at the offices and election work related venues.
2. The sufficient symptom screening points shall be arranged at the Collectorates and district offices and on the day of distribution of material for screening the polling personnel and election duty staff.
3. Any symptomatic officer, self-disclosed/ identified on screening, should undergo Rapid Antigen Test at the nearest government COVID-19 testing facility and seek health care.
4. On the distribution day, at the distribution centre, separate arrangements for Antigen Testing may also be done for conducting the test of symptomatic personnel.
5. COVID-19 positive personnel (officers/ staff/ security) shall not be allowed to participate in the conduct of the election duty and treatment management shall be done as per the clinical assessment of the patient.

6. The Symptomatic officer's if the Antigen test is negative, it should be followed up with RTPCR test or ExpressNAT test. As per the test results further actions to be taken.
7. If the officers drafted for the Election duty are advised to be in quarantine because they are the contact of the known COVID Positive patient, they shall undergo the Antigen test on the appropriate day as per the suggestions of Health Officer. As per the test results, the positive personnel shall not be allowed to participate in election duty and the treatment management shall be done as per the clinical assessment. The COVID negative personnel shall perform respective allotted election duty.
8. Physical distancing, wearing of masks, hand hygiene shall be observed by all the personnel. Hand hygiene shall be performed before and after sharing of any articles and equipment.

  
**Principal Secretary**