

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
ASSAM STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
ANCILLARY BLOCK, JANATA BHAWAN, DISPUR, GUWAHATI-781006
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ORDER

No.ASDMA.76/2020/6

Dated Dispur, the ^{22nd} September, 2020

Whereas in view of the COVID-19 Pandemic which has caused a major threat to public health, hygiene and safety of the general population, and has also affected the tea garden workers of Assam and their families, where a large numbers of workers have been advised quarantine/home isolation because of their proximity or possible contact with the Corona positive patients.

Whereas this department vide letter No.PLA.7/06/Pt-I/3235-39, dated 16th March 2020, PLA.7/06/Pt-I/3515-22, dated 18th March, 2020, LE.16/2018/4171-73, dated 21st March, 2020 and No.LE.16/2018/4381-444, dated 27th March, 2020 has requested all the tea garden managements to maintain all protocols of COVID-19 and for payment of wages, supply of ration etc. during the period of lockdown to the tea garden workers and families.

Whereas, despite these instructions, it is learnt that the tea garden managements are not complying the orders for paying the workers daily wages for the period of absence from work due to quarantine/ home isolation.

Whereas, as per the Plantations Labour Act, there is a provision for sick leave (14 days) under sec. 32 read with Rule 74 of the Assam Plantation Labour Rules, 1956 available to all workers of the tea garden irrespective of their sickness.

However, along with this provision of 14 days sick leave, there is no specific paid leave provision under the aforesaid Act & Rule for leave which can be availed by the tea garden workers at times of emergency.

Whereas, if the workers are not paid for the period of absence from work for the quarantine/home isolation period then there is every possibility that the workers will not comply with the quarantine instruction and may go for work which will spread infection among other workers or persons in the Tea Garden.

I, therefore, in my capacity as the Chairman of the State Executive Committee of the Assam State Disaster Management Authority, in exercise of the powers conferred under section 64 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, hereby direct all the Management of the Tea Gardens to allow 'special leave' with payment of wages upto a maximum period of 14 days to the workers for the period of quarantine/home isolation undergone due to COVID 19 infection as per the direction of the District Health Authorities and to ensure that they do not violate the quarantine protocols.


(KUMAR SANJAY KRISHNA)
Chief Secretary, Assam

Copy to:- All Concerned