



## Phased Easing of Lockdown

---

 [drishtias.com/printpdf/phased-easing-of-lockdown](https://drishtias.com/printpdf/phased-easing-of-lockdown)

### Why in News

---

An **expert committee headed by former Chief Secretary K.M. Abraham** has **recommended a phased relaxation of the lockdown** to contain **COVID-19** for areas outside the seven hotspot districts in the **State of Kerala** from April 15, 2020.

### Key Points

---

- The committee said that the **phased withdrawal (in three phases) is sustainable only** if there is a **steady recovery and decline in the number of cases** leading to initial flattening of the infection curve and then gradual tapering of the curve to zero infection cases.
- It has asked the government to advise the people that in the event of a resurgence, they should be **ready and willing to undergo the rigours of a complete lockdown once again**.
- The committee has also come up with **health-related and non-health-related objectives** for the withdrawal strategy and steps for management of hotspots and vulnerable populations.
- The Committee has also set **criteria for moving into three phases of lockdown withdrawal**.

**For example**, for qualifying for Phase I relaxation,

- there has to be not more than one new case in the district for the entire week prior to the date of review on April 14.
- No increase of more than 10% of the number of persons under home surveillance in the district and no hotspots of COVID-19 anywhere in the district.

# Restrictions during 3 phases



## PHASE I



Face mask compulsory for stepping out



Identity card must, travel purpose to be explained

Odd-even scheme for private vehicles

Ban on those above 65 with history of comorbidity from stepping out



Total clampdown on vehicle movement on Sunday

No flights, train services



Govt. offices, banks may reopen with 50% attendance

One person per house can go outside for 3 hours

No entry of any person from outside the State



Super markets, malls, cinemas, bars to remain closed



• No gathering of more than 5 persons

• No religious congregations

• Attendance at marriages, funerals to be 10



## PHASE II



Autos, taxis may be allowed, but only one and three passengers respectively

Bus travel for short distance within city or town with one person per seat



Activities under MGNREGS, micro, small and medium enterprises begin

Attendance at marriages and funerals to be 20

Workers at worksite 20 or 25% of staff strength, whichever is higher



People may be permitted to walk for 30 minutes before 7.30 a.m.

## PHASE III



Domestic flights for essential passengers, doctors, health workers, patients

Hostels, residential facilities may be opened

Inter-district bus transport with two-thirds capacity



Bevco may start online sale of liquor

IT companies to open partially



No religious congregations, large marriages, political meetings, conferences

Entry into the State, should undergo 14-day quarantine

Universities, schools, colleges open for exams

Source: TH