

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION**

PRESS RELEASE

27 March 2020

To provide accessibility of essential commodities, all shops with essential commodities like food grain, groceries, fruits, vegetables, milk, meat & fish will remain open from 10 am to 6.00 pm daily till further orders.

This was decided in a meeting held under the chairmanship of Sh. V.P. Singh Badnore, Governor, Punjab and Administrator, UT, Chandigarh here today which was attended by senior officers of Chandigarh namely Sh. Manoj Parida, Adviser to the Administrator, Sh. Sanjay Beniwal, IPS, DGP, Sh. A.K. Sinha, Finance Secretary, Sh. K.K. Yadav, IAS, Commissioner, Municipal Corporation & Sh. Omvir Singh Bishnoi, DIG, Chandigarh.

The residents can visit these shops to purchase essential commodities in their respective sector markets. It was again retreated that to avoid congestion in markets, vehicles will not be permitted. The residents will come on foot in these markets. Further vendors dealing in fruit and vegetables will also get earmarked spaces in these markets only.

To ensure social distancing between the persons coming to these shops, it was decided that Sector Response Teams, already formed, will be strengthened by taking different officials from various departments of Chandigarh Administration and Police personnel.

The Administrator emphasized on ensuring social distance among citizens and appealed to the residents of city to fight COVID-19. He appealed to all the residents to must adhere to the prescribed norms of social distancing by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India.

Administrator again emphasized on providing essential commodities to the economical weaker sections in the city. It was informed to the Administrator that cooked food has been distributed to nearly 15000 needy persons on daily basis. However, ration and vegetables will be continued to be supplied to rehabilitation colonies, slum areas and villages through CTU buses by deploying employees of Chandigarh Administration.

The Administrator also reviewed the availability of various commodities in the city and directed concerned officers to ensure proper coordination with the state of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh by raising issues with respective counterpart Govts.