

No. Home-E-(B)-15-1/2022  
Government of Himachal Pradesh  
Department of Home (Section -E)

From

The Principal Secretary (Home) to the  
Government of Himachal Pradesh.

To

All the District Magistrate (Except DM, Hamirpur)  
Himachal Pradesh  
Dated Shimla-2

7<sup>th</sup> Jan., 2023

Subject:-

Decision regarding criminal cases/ FIRs registered under the penal provisions of Indian Penal Code and Disaster Management Act/ Epidemic Regulation for violation of directions of Government/ District Administration during the period of Lockdown.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the subject cited above and to the reference received from Deputy Commissioner, Sirmour. In this regard, Chairman- cum- District Magistrate, Hamirpur HP, vide letter no. 428 SK/ DM dated 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2022, informed that a District level Committee was constituted and criminal cases/ FIRs, registered for violation of orders/ conditions during the lock down period, were decided to be closed/ cancelled, in view of the fact that violators were not hard core criminals or remained instrumental in spreading COVID- 19 or involved in violence or caused any damage to public property. In this regard, you are aware that in order to curb the pandemic and to prevent the spread, thereof, the Himachal Pradesh Epidemic Disease (COVID-19) Regulations, 2020 were notified under Disaster Management Act/ Epidemic Regulations and various restrictions were imposed in the State by invoking the provision(s) of Section 144 of Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 as well as penal provisions of Indian Penal Code. However, despite, imposition of lockdown/ restrictions, violations of the conditions were reported to have occurred and as consequence, thereof, criminal cases/ FIRs were registered against the violators throughout the State.

The State could, to a great extent, achieve its objective in curbing the Epidemic. As such, the matter was deliberated upon and it has been decided by the Competent Authority to close/ cancel/ withdraw such FIRs/ cases, registered across the State of HP, in the public interest.

In view of above, therefore, District level Committees may be constituted with DDMA-cum-District Magistrate as Chairman, District Superintendent of Police and District Attorney as members for identifying such cases and to take decision, thereon. Such cases may be closed/ cancelled/ withdrawn by adopting appropriate procedure as per law. The action taken report be also furnished to this department.

Yours Sincerely,



(Ritu Raj Verma)

Additional Secretary (Home) to the  
Govt. of Himachal Pradesh  
Phone No. 0177-2622765