



टाटा मूलभूत अनुसंधान संस्थान

TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

1, होमी भाभा रोड, कुलाबा, मुंबई - 400 005

1, Homi Bhabha Road, Colaba, Mumbai 400 005

भारत सरकार का नाभिकीय विज्ञान एवं गणित का राष्ट्रीय केंद्र एवं समविश्वविद्यालय

National Centre of the Government of India for Nuclear
Science and Mathematics and a Deemed University

दूरभाष/Telephone : 022-2278 2306

फैक्स/Fax : 022-2280 4501

वेबसाइट/Website: www.tifr.res.in

ईमेल/Email: director@tifr.res.in

Ref: TFR/ADM/Dir. Office/

April 15, 2021

Second Phase of Emergency Covid-19 Measures in TIFR

(April 15 - 18, 2021)

In view of the Government of Maharashtra having imposed tight 'lockdown-like' restrictions on movement in Mumbai, as well as an unprecedentedly high number of Covid-19 positive cases in TIFR, a set of emergency measures must be followed from April 15, 2021 (Thursday) till April 18, 2021 (Sunday). The situation will be reviewed on Sunday, and a fresh notification will be issued.

It has been brought to my notice that despite *multiple* warnings to follow Covid-safe protocols, our own Institute members, at various levels, have been violating these in many ways. This is regrettable. In particular, Institute members are warned not to indulge in any of the following dangerous practices.

- (a) Working in offices/laboratories for long periods without mask in the presence of others.
- (b) Congregation and socialising during meals, when masks have to be removed.
- (c) Holding lunch/dinner parties in confined places.
- (d) Playing outdoor games without masks and congregating closely afterwards.
- (e) Violation of isolation/quarantine by coming out and going to Institute and/or canteen(s).
- (f) Concealment of Covid-like symptoms for several days.

Medical advisors have repeatedly pointed out that the new strain of virus which is spreading now is much more infectious than before. It is also reported that the medical system in Mumbai is swamped with cases, and even now, relatively mild cases are being sent home by the hospitals and Covid-care centres. If the number of cases continues to increase, not only will TIFR become a micro-containment zone, as per BMC rules, but it may become necessary to close down the Institute and the hostels *sine die* — as has been the case with some other institutions of repute. To prevent such a situation, and for the safety of all Institute members and their families, please note that the following emergency measures shall be in place during **April 15 — 18, 2021**.

1. All laboratories, offices and facilities in the Institute are to remain in minimal operation during April 15 – 18, 2021. Only work which is essential or ongoing without a possibility of postponement should be carried out.

2. Institute members who do not need to attend the Institute premises for work under the above item are advised not to come to work during the above-mentioned period, with the consent of their Competent Authority, i.e. PI/Section Head (as defined in the OD of April 2, 2021).

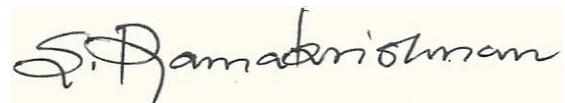
Absence under such terms will not be counted as leave. However, if the Competent Authority deems it necessary to come, the Institute member is required to comply, failing which it will be treated as leave as per eligibility.

Competent Authorities are requested to take into account known co-morbidities when calling any individual. Pregnant women (if any) should not be called at all during the above-mentioned period.

3. Those who need to commute for permitted work, as mentioned above, should be in touch with the Security Section for passes/letters which will allow them to clear the police cordons.
4. All academic and other activities, including teaching, seminars, meetings, discussions, which can be carried out in online mode, may do so. However, all physical classroom teaching must remain suspended.
5. All outdoor recreational activities, e.g. games, must remain suspended. However, those who need to walk for health purposes, may do so with masks on at all times.
6. Non-essential facilities, e.g. gym, badminton court, etc. as well as the A-Block SIRC Reading Room shall remain closed.
7. The East and West Canteens will continue to operate with a limited menu. Jagadish Canteen will continue operations as usual. All patrons of these facilities must follow Covid-safe protocols strictly.

Any Institute member who sees a violation of the above, or a violation of the Covid-safety protocols (outlined in the OD of April 2) should consider it his/her duty to politely warn the violator(s) and ask them to follow the protocols. I expect the Faculty members and senior staff to take a leading role in this.

I am once again appealing to all Institute members to show their good sense and permit us to break the chain of infection without taking drastic action.



(S. Ramakrishnan)
Director

All Faculty, Staff, Post-docs and Students in Colaba