

BITS PILANI HYDERABAD CAMPUS
RE-OPENING OF CAMPUS

PLANNING:

BITS Pilani Hyderabad Campus has taken utmost care and number of initiatives with regard to the sanitation, health, physical distancing, vaccination, maintaining COVID appropriate behaviour in the campus, etc. It is now imperative that we live normally while putting in our best efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 virus. In addition to the measures taken by the Institute, the onus is also on campus residents to maintain and follow the COVID appropriate behaviour. A detailed SOP is given in this document which should be followed by all students, faculty and staff during their stay on campus.

After discussions with sections of students and faculty across campuses, and considering the Central and State Government advisories, it has been decided by the Institute to call the students back to the campus in a phased manner.

The students who were vaccinated with one or two doses and heading back to campus, are required to carry RT-PCR test report done 72 hours prior to their arrival. If their report is negative, they do not have to undergo any quarantine. Enough publicity is given by prominently displaying the signages and posters indicating the COVID appropriate behaviour in the campus.

Adequate safety arrangements including thermal scanning at entry gate are made. The arrangements for isolation and quarantine are made and proper provisions for safety, health and food are ensured. Proper sanitation in the campus is maintained and adequate arrangements for safe drinking water and hand-washing stations with facilities of liquid soap are in place. Frequent sanitization of common areas and common touch points using disinfectants, is being done. Emergency contact numbers such as Medical Centre, Ambulance, etc. are shared with all stakeholders and prominently displayed at appropriate places in the campus.

In order to reassure the students' community to avoid any kind of stress/panic, the Institute has established a Centre namely "MPower-The Cell" which is a holistic mental health care initiative.

GUIDELINES TO FOLLOW WITHIN THE CAMPUS:

- All students must have to wear the face masks while moving in the hostels and in the campus.
- Possession of valid ID cards and produce this on demand when requested by authorities is mandatory while moving on campus.
- At least 2 mtr. distance must be maintained between people at all times everywhere in the campus including hostels and laboratories.
- Students are not supposed to gather in Dining Halls, Cafeteria, eatery kiosks, etc.
- Everyone should maintain personal hygiene, including frequent hand washing, etc. and the students are expected to keep their surroundings as clean as possible.
- If the students have any symptoms like cough, fever, headache, shortness of breath, etc., Campus Doctors should be consulted immediately, and also the concerned Hostel Superintendent should be informed of the same.
- Outside food delivery boys (Swiggy, Zomato, local restaurants, etc.) are not allowed to deliver any food parcels at the hostels. If outside food is ordered, the concerned students(s) should go to the main gate and collect the parcel.
- No visitors are allowed in the campus.
- On-campus students are not allowed to go outside the campus.
- Inter-hostel movements are restricted.
- Adequate sanitizers are provided at the designated places as appropriate.
- Cultural activities, meetings etc. are avoided till further notice.

DO'S:

- Wash your hands at least for 20 seconds several times a day predominantly before eating, after using the washroom, after blowing your nose, coughing or after accidentally touching any surface in common areas.
- Wash your hands and face with soap and water whenever you touch your face.
- Try to use stairs instead of lifts as far as possible.
- Wash your hands immediately if you use your bare hands to operate the lift buttons.
- In case of illness, please consult Institute Resident Doctors immediately and follow their advise scrupulously.
- Keep track of the people you come in close contact with, every day.
- In case you are arriving on campus from outside, keep track of your temperature at least twice a day for one week after you arrive. Having a thermometer for personal use is recommended.
- Avoid touching handrails.
- Follow cough etiquette. Cover mouth and nose with handkerchief when coughing or sneezing.
- Follow the advise of resident Doctors and take all precautions.

DON'TS:

- Don't touch your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Do not step out of your room unless it is absolutely necessary.
- No more than 3 students can move together in the campus.
- Do not talk or touch any metal surfaces when you are using lifts.
- Do not gather in the corridors or in the dining hall. Please leave the dining hall and head back to your room as soon as you finish eating.
- Do not spit in public areas.

CAMPUS LIFE DURING COVID-19:

To ensure the safety, health and wellbeing, the students are required to adhere to the following guidelines during their stay on campus:

- Gym facility and Student Activity Centre are open to the students. However, they have to follow the specific SOP for these facilities.
- The students are not allowed to use grounds or hostel QT for playing till further notice. However, they can use roads for walking.
- Some of the eatery kiosks are open. The students are required to follow the guidelines and maintain social distancing at the kiosks. They are encouraged to choose take-away options wherever possible.
- Hair Salons are open. The students are expected to follow the COVID appropriate behaviour while visiting the Salons. They are advised to use disposable towels in the Salons.
- Fruit shop at the Connaught Place remains open during the daytime.
- In case of any illness, the students are strictly advised to stay in their hostel rooms except for dining, using washrooms or as directed by the Institute Resident Doctors.
- There is a separate arrangement of food supply for the students if they are advised for isolation.
- It is reiterated that minimum 2 mtr. physical distance is to be maintained everywhere in the campus.
- The students are advised to avoid sharing personal items with others.
- Common areas in the campus are to be kept neat and tidy.

SOP FOR CENTRAL FACILITIES / LABORATORIES:

To the Instructors, Staff and Teaching Assistants:

- The faculty, staff and TAs in the Laboratories and central facilities who interact with the students during the classwork have to wear a face-shield.
- Every Department shall display Lab SOP at each of the laboratories of their department which should be followed by all the faculty, students and staff scrupulously.
- An attendance register will be maintained for every laboratory session with entry/exit timings which will be useful for contact tracing if required.
- To the extent possible, air-conditioning should be avoided in the labs and lab doors may be kept open.
- If the Ph.D. scholars stay outside the campus and have co-morbidities or fall sick, they have to avoid coming to the laboratories or departments. They have to inform their Lab-in-charge/Lab Instructor/HoD, of the same.

To the students:

- Students with certain medical conditions that may put them at a risk due to COVID 19, should not come to the laboratories.
- Students should minimize your stay in the Departments while attending the laboratory work, etc. As soon as you finish your work for the day, come back to your hostel room.
- Students should follow the advise of Instructors and Lab-in-charges and stagger their laboratory visits so that the physical distancing in the laboratories is ensured.
- While working in laboratories, maintain social distancing of 2 mtrs. and also ensure wearing face masks.
- If you have any symptoms while you are in the laboratory, inform the concerned instructor and/or lab-in-charge of the same.
- Sanitize your hands when you enter/leave the laboratory especially, if there is more than one person present in the laboratory. You are advised to carry your own sanitiser, if possible.
- Do not visit any laboratory other than your designated workplace.
- Please visit your laboratories only at scheduled hours and comply with the SOP meant for the laboratory.
- Do not allow any outsiders to enter the laboratory.
- Under no circumstances litter or dispose of the laboratory waste in the common areas, as it becomes difficult for housekeeping staff to effectively sanitise these areas.