

Unlock 4.0 Guidelines of the Home Ministry

September 1, 2020

The Centre's **step-by-step opening up post-coronavirus lockdown is set to see major relaxations in Unlock 4.0.** The guidelines issued by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs say that **states can no longer impose lockdowns outside containment zones without the Centre's permission and must not seal borders.** The only activities expressly prohibited under the new guidelines are opening of cinema halls, swimming pools, entertainment parks, theatres (excluding open air theatres) and similar places with a high risk of spread of the virus. **International air travel of passengers, except as permitted by the MHA, and train services will remain restricted.**

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Unlock 4.0 guidelines: What's allowed

- **Metro services** will resume from September 7, 2020 in a graded manner.
- Social/ academic/ sports/ entertainment/ cultural/ religious/ political functions and other congregations will be permitted with a **ceiling of 100 people.** However, strict measures including mandatory wearing of face masks, social distancing and thermal scanning provisions will have to be observed.
- Open air theatres will be allowed to reopen from September 21, 2020
- States/ Union Territories may permit **upto 50% of teaching and non-teaching staff to return to schools** from September 21 for online teaching related work in areas outside containment zones.
- Students from classes 9 to 12 from schools outside containment zones will be permitted to visit their

faculty to clear doubts on a voluntary basis from September 21.

- **No restrictions will be imposed on inter-state and intra-state movement of people and goods.** No separate permission or e-permits will be needed for such movement.

Unlock 4.0 guidelines: What's not allowed

- **Schools, colleges, educational and coaching institutions will remain closed** for students till September 30. Online/ distance learning will continue.
- States and union territories will not be permitted to enforce lockdowns outside containment zones without the Centre's permission.
- **Cinema halls, swimming pools, entertainment parks, theatres and other such places** will remain closed.
- International air travel, other than what is permitted by MHA, remains suspended.
- **Elderly people over the age of 65 and young children below 10 years of age, have been advised to stay at home.** They should venture out only for essential and health purposes, the MHA has said.