

May 15, 2020

Governor's Message to Hyogo citizens and Hyogo-based business operators related to the relaxation of restrictions

The Government of Japan announced that Hyogo will remain in the State of Emergency as a prefecture under the special alert. In light of this, Hyogo Prefecture held a COVID-19 task force meeting today and decided to relax some restrictions regarding the use of facilities in consideration of social and economic activities while also focusing on containing the spread of infection. This will be done in line with the policies of Osaka and Kyoto, the two nearby prefectures where close interactions of people are observed.

Although the recent number of new cases have been steadily declining, we must consider the possibility of a second wave of infections.

I would like to ask for your continued cooperation and to not let your guard down, including continuing **refraining from the three actions**.

1. To Hyogo-based business operators

- Business suspension request is still in place for some facilities, such as entertainment and amusement facilities where localized outbreaks have been observed nationwide (e.g., eating and drinking establishments that provide individual customer services), as well as assembly and exhibition facilities. I strongly request these facilities to **continue to shut down operations**. **(Refrain from operations)**
- Business suspension request to theaters and commercial facilities has been rescinded. When resuming operations, business operators are required to avoid **the Three Cs**¹ based on the guidelines, by ventilating the facilities, restricting admissions, and ensuring people to keep a safe distance apart. For facilities that have already been in operation, I request that they continue practicing thorough infection prevention measures.
- Please take necessary measures to **reduce 70% of commuters**, such as utilizing telecommuting and video conferences. **(Refrain from commuting)**

2. To Hyogo citizens

- Please **avoid outings** as much as possible so that we can reduce social interactions by 80%, or at least 70%.
- In particular, please **avoid unnecessary and non-urgent travel across prefectures**, as well as **visits to eating and drinking establishments** at entertainment quarters **that provide individual customer services** during nighttime. **(Refrain from going out)**
- Please **avoid the Three Cs** by keeping physical distance, and **practice infection prevention**

¹ Confined spaces with poor ventilation; Crowded places where many people can be nearby; and Close contact with people

measures thoroughly by wearing face masks and washing hands.

I would like to ask all of you for your understanding and cooperation towards the phased resumption of social and economic activities while continuing **refraining from the three actions** and focusing on the containment of the spread of COVID-19.