

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PATRONS OF Hindu Temple Society of the Capital Districts, NY

Coronavirus (nCoV) continues to dominate headlines with news of its spread and potential new cases in the United States and New York. While we are uncertain of how this outbreak will affect the operations of Hindu Temple Society, Board of Trustees would like to bring this notice to your attention.

We have initiated certain procedures to prevent the spread of Coronavirus at the temple. While much is unknown about the threat of coronavirus, the health of our devotees and employees is our primary concern. New York state declared a state of emergency due to coronavirus. We would like to prevent the spread of this virus. We request your full cooperation to the efforts we are implementing in our temple. All the public celebrations are on hold till further notice both in Temple and HCC.

ENTRY RESTRICTIONS

If you are sick or have flu like symptoms (such as fever, cough, sore throat, diarrhea, shortness of breath, muscle aches), or recently traveled to an affected area, please do not enter Hindu Temple Society premises and if necessary seek medical advice.

Currently, HTS is open and if you consider entering the temple, please know that you are entering at your own risk. Many responsible agencies suggest minimizing social contact and maintain at least three feet distance between individuals. This social separation is essential to prevent community spread of the deadly virus. People who are 60 years of age or older, and/or with certain medical conditions (such as diabetes, heart condition or lung function impairment) should avoid all social gatherings as it might affect them adversely.

While entering the Temple:

- Wash your hands with liquid soap for at least 20 seconds thoroughly
- Use hand sanitizer frequently
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow (best to avoid airborne travel of virus)

In the Temple:

- Temple will not distribute Naivedya Prasadam, until further notice.
- No distribution of Theertham (Holy water)
- Don't bring any homemade Naivedya (food) offerings or flowers or fruits to temple
- Priests are instructed not to offer those to Deities
- Priests won't be performing outside poojas because of their health risks
- No brunch at HCC till conditions improve

During this challenging time your cooperation is highly appreciated

May the blessings of Sri Lakshmi Narayana be always with us and our families!