

# AN ORDINANCE

to provide relief to the people of Sindh in an emergency situation arising due to widespread pandemic of Corona Virus (Covid-19) disease, which has badly hit, hurt or affected the population of the province, directly or indirectly by the measures adopted or taken by Government to stop the spread of the disease for the general welfare of the public and to mitigate challenges emanating from the ban/lockdown imposed by the Government of Sindh throughout the Province.

**WHEREAS** it is expedient to provide relief to the people of Sindh in an emergency situation arising due to widespread pandemic of Corona Virus (Covid-19) disease, which has badly hit, hurt or affected the population of the province, directly or indirectly by the measures adopted or taken by Government to stop the spread of the disease for the general welfare of the public and to mitigate challenges emanating from the ban/lockdown imposed by the Government of Sindh throughout the Province. **Preamble.**

**AND WHEREAS** the Sindh Assembly is not in session and the Governor is satisfied that the circumstances exist which render it necessary to take immediate action;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** in exercise of the powers conferred under clause (1) of Article 128 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973, the Governor is pleased to make and promulgate the following Ordinance:

1. (1) The Ordinance may be called the Sindh Covid-19 Emergency Relief Ordinance, 2020 **Short title, extent and commencement.**

(2) It shall extend to the whole of the Province of Sindh.

(3) It shall come into force at once and shall be deemed to have taken effect on and from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2020.

2. In this Ordinance, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context - **Definitions.**

(a) “educational institution” means any preschool, elementary or secondary school, college, university, higher educational institute, madaris or any vocational, professional whether in public or private sector providing formal or non-formal education;

(b) “employee” means a person not falling within the definition of employer who is employed in an establishment for hire or reward either directly or through a contractor whether the terms of employment are express or implied and includes a worker for wages;

- (c) “employer” means the owner of an establishment and also includes any person or body of persons, whether incorporated or not, who or which hires employees in the establishment under a contract of employment and includes –
- (a) an heir, successor or assign, as the case may be, of such person or body as aforesaid;
  - (b) any person responsible for the management and control of the establishment;
  - (c) in relation to an establishment run by or under the authority of any department of the Government, the authority appointed in this behalf or, where no authority is so appointed, the Head of the department;
  - (d) in relation to an establishment run by or on behalf of a local authority, the officer appointed in this behalf, or where no officer is so appointed, the chief executive officer of that authority;
- (d) “establishment” means any office, firm, factory, society, undertaking, industry, company of all types, educational institution, shop, restaurant, corporation or any other enterprise, which hire employees directly or through a contractor for the purpose of carrying on any business or industry and includes all its departments and branches in the Province of Sindh;
- (e) “Government” means the Government of Sindh;
- (f) “Landlord” means the owner of the premises and includes a person who is for the time being authorized or entitled to receive rent of the premises;
- (g) “premises” means a building or land, let out on rent, but does not include a hotel;
- (h) “prescribed period” means the period for taking measures for prevention, protection and control the Covid-19 as notified by Government, from time to time;
- (i) “Schedule” means the Schedule to this Ordinance;
- (j) “tenant” means any person who undertakes or is bound to pay rent as consideration for the possession or occupation of any premises by him or by any other

person on his behalf and includes –

- (i) any person who continues to be in possession or occupation of the premises after the termination of his tenancy;
- (ii) heirs of the tenant in possession or occupation of the premises after the death of the tenant;
- (k) “utility providers” means sewerage, gas, telephone, public water facilities, electrical facilities and all other utility facilities providers and services necessary for the operation and occupancy of the household and business.

3. (1) For carrying out the purposes of this Ordinance, the reliefs under sub-section (2) shall be provided to the affected people of the Province of Sindh. **Reliefs.**

(2) That during the prescribed period –

- (a) no educational institution shall charge more than eighty percent (80%) of the total monthly fees. The relief amount, reduced equivalent to twenty percent (20%), under this Ordinance, shall not be recovered as arrears under any circumstances or under any existing or new head of account; provided that in addition, no student shall be placed at any disadvantageous position in terms of fee which he or she was paying before the promulgation of this Ordinance;
- (b) no employee or worker shall be laid off, terminated or removed and the employee shall be paid salary by the employer as indicated in Schedule-I; provided that the period of closure of an establishment may be considered by the employer as the paid leave;
- (c) all the utility providers falling within the territorial jurisdiction of Government shall provide concession as per Schedule-II in the utility services to all the domestic, residential and commercial consumers;
- (d) the landlord shall defer or suspend the recovery of the rent of the premises for the payable amount as indicated in Schedule-III; provided that the same shall not apply in cases where the owner is the widow, differently abled person and senior citizen as defined in the Sindh Senior Citizen Act, 2014;
- (e) the Government may provide exemption in the provincial taxes, duties, fees, cess, levies and charges in a manner as notified by Government;

- (f) the Non-governmental organization registered with the departments of Government, shall collaborate and share the data in connection with relief activities being done or performed for mitigating COVID-19 pandemic across Sindh.

(3) The reliefs provided under sub-section (2) shall be for the prescribed period and in the prescribed manner as may be notified by Government.

4. (1) Whoever contravenes the provisions of section 3, without prejudice to any punishment to which he may be liable under any other law for the time being in force, shall be punishable with on spot fine which may extend upto rupees one million or attachment of movable, immovable, perishable property or both, on a complaint made by an aggrieved person in writing to an officer authorized under section 10 or by authorized officer himself. **Penalty.**

Provided that the order of imposing the penalty shall be in writing containing reasons for the issuance of the order thereof.

(2) In case of non-payment of fine, the same shall be recovered as arrears of land revenue under the Sindh Land Revenue Act, 1967 (**Act No.XVII of 1967**).

5. Where, by any law, rule, regulation, order, contract or otherwise, any act or proceeding is directed or required to be done or undertaken in any court or office or any legal, regulatory, contractual or other obligation, by any person in the Province, that act, proceeding or obligation shall be considered as done or undertaken in due time if it is done or undertaken thirty working days after the prescribed period, and the period to do or undertake such act, proceeding or obligation shall be deemed to be extended by such period. **Extension of period to perform duties, etc.**

6. The provisions of this Ordinance shall have effect notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any laws, rules, regulations, judgments or anything otherwise for the time being in force. **Overriding effect.**

7. No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against any person for anything done or in good faith intended to be done under this Ordinance. **Indemnity.**

8. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to any provision of this Ordinance, the Chief Minister may make such order, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, as may appear to him to be necessary for the purpose of removing such difficulty. **Removal of difficulty.**

9. Chief Minister may, by notification in the official gazette, amend any of the Schedules by amending or modifying by entry therein or omitting any entry therefrom. **Amendment of Schedule.**

10. Government may, by notification in the official gazette, **Authorization.**

authorize Departments, attached departments, or any officer or authority to perform such functions and exercise such powers and exercise such powers under this Ordinance.

11. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Ordinance, or any law for the time being in force, or any judgment, decree or order of any court, the notifications, orders, circulars, issued, powers conferred, assumed or exercised by any person or authority or forum between the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and the date this Ordinance comes into force (both days inclusive) in connection with Covid-19 Pandemic, shall be deemed to have been validly initiated, conducted, done, taken, passed, made, issued, conferred, assumed or exercised under this Ordinance and shall have effect accordingly and shall be deemed to have been validly issued or passed under this Ordinance. **Validity.**

(IMRAN ISMAIL)  
GOVERNOR OF SINDH

Karachi,  
Dated the April,2020

**Schedule-I**  
**(See section 3(2)(b))**

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Monthly Salary to be paid to the employee for the prescribed period</b>	<b>Deduction to be made in monthly salary by the employer</b>
1.	Where the salary does not exceed Rs.50,000/-	No deduction
2.	Where salary exceeds Rs. 50,000/- but does not exceed Rs.100,000/-	5%
3	Where salary exceeds Rs.100,000/- but does not exceed Rs.150,000/-	7.5%
4	Where salary exceeds Rs.150,000/- but does not exceed Rs.200,000/-	10%
5	Where salary exceeds Rs. 200,000/- but does not exceed Rs.300,000/-	12.5%
6	Where salary exceeds Rs. 300,000/- but does not exceed Rs.400,000/-	15%
7	Where salary exceeds Rs.400,000/- but does not exceed Rs.700,000/-	17.5%
8	Where salary exceeds Rs.700,000/-	20%

**Schedule-II**  
**(See section 3(2)(c))**

**(A) Monthly Consumption of Electricity**

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Monthly Consumption of Electricity</b>	<b>Suspension of monthly Bill for prescribed period.</b>
1	1-260 Units	No amount of Bill to be paid
2	261-350 Units	25% amount of the Bill to be paid
3	351-450 Units	50% amount of the Bill to be paid
4	Above 450 Units	100% amount of the Bill to be paid

**(B) Monthly Consumption of Water**

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Area per Sq. yds</b>	<b>Suspension for prescribed period.</b>
1	House upto 80 sq.yds.	No amount of Bill to be paid
2	81-160 sq. yds.	25% amount of the Bill to be paid
3	161-240 sq.yds.	50% amount of the Bill to be paid
4	Above 240 sq.yds.	100% amount of the Bill to be paid

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Area per Sq. ft</b>	<b>Suspension for prescribed period.</b>
1	Flats up to 800 Sq. ft	No amount of Bill to be paid
2	800 to 1000 Sq ft	25% amount of the Bill to be paid
3	1000 – 1200 Sq. ft	50% amount of the Bill to be paid
4	Above 1200 Sq.ft.	100% amount of the Bill to be paid

**(C) Monthly Consumption of Gas**

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Consumption</b>	<b>Suspension for prescribed period.</b>
1	Upto 155 Units (m <sup>3</sup> ) per month	No amount of Bill to be paid
2	Upto 200 Units (m <sup>3</sup> ) per month	25% amount of the Bill to be paid
3	Upto 300 Units (m <sup>3</sup> ) per month	50% amount of the Bill to be paid
4	Above 300 Units (m <sup>3</sup> ) per month	100% amount of the Bill to be paid

**Schedule-III**  
**(See section 3(2)(d))**

<b>Serial No.</b>	<b>Monthly Rent</b>	<b>Suspension of rent amount for prescribed period</b>
1	Where the rent does not exceed Rs. 50,000/=	No monthly rent to be paid by the tenant
2	Where the rent exceeds Rs. 50,000/= but does not exceed Rs.100,000/=	50% amount of monthly rent to be paid by the tenant
3	Where the rent exceeds Rs. 100,000/=	100% of the monthly rent to be paid by the tenant