



Confederation of Indian Industry

125 Years: 1895-2020

COVID 19

Updates, Notifications and Advisories

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<http://www.ciicovid19update.in>

News Update

MHA holds a Comprehensive Review Meeting on the Lockdown situation in wake of spread of COVID-19

Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) held a comprehensive review meeting on the lockdown situation. It was noted that there have been tremendous gains and improvement in the situation because of the lockdown till now. To ensure that the gains of the lockdown are not squandered away, the lockdown guidelines must be observed strictly till 3 May. New guidelines to fight COVID-19 will come into effect from 4 May, which would give considerable relaxations to many districts. Details regarding this would be communicated in the days to come.

Coronavirus: India readies mega plan to bring back its nationals stranded abroad; The evacuation, which may happen post lockdown, is likely to be the biggest after 'Operation Raahat'.

The government is working on a mega plan to deploy a raft of naval ships as well as military and commercial aircraft to evacuate thousands of Indians stranded in the Gulf and other regions after the nationwide lockdown ends, official sources said on Wednesday. The government has already reached out to several states asking them to make necessary arrangements for the Indians when they are brought back home under the multi-agency operation.

Shri Piyush Goyal: There is going to be perceptible change in the global supply-chains in the post Covid era and India should be looking to capture significant share in the world trade:

Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal called upon the Exporters to identify their strengths, potentials and competitive advantages in specific sectors, and focus on harnessing them in the world markets. Shri Goyal said that in the post-Covid era, there is going to be perceptible change in the global supply-chains, and Indian industrialists and exporters should be looking to capture significant share in the world trade. He assured them that the Government will be a pro-active



supporter and facilitator in their efforts, and the Indian Missions abroad can play an important role in that. The Minister said that Incentives can be given, but they have to be justified, reasonable, and WTO-compliant.

Union Minister for Rural Development & Panchayati Raj asks States to proactively implement Rural Development Schemes relating to employment generation and strengthening of rural livelihoods while taking all necessary COVID-19 related precautions

In the light of relaxations extended to Non-Containment Areas in the country from 20th April 2020, and initiation of works under Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana Gramin (PMAY-G), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) in such Non-Containment Areas, Union Minister for Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar and Minister of State for Rural Development Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti held a two-hour long Video Conference with Rural Development Ministers and concerned officers of States and Union Territories. He stated that although the challenge posed by the spread of COVID-19 pandemic is very serious, however, urged them to convert this challenge into an opportunity for development and strengthening of rural infrastructure and housing, creation of employment opportunities in rural areas and facilitate diversification of rural livelihoods.

Amid lockdown, SCTIMST gears up to meet COVID 19 pandemic with R&D, technologies and Products

Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) is an Institution of National Importance under the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India stood out with its research, technologies, and innovations to meet the need of the hour in India's fight against COVID 19.

Electrostatic Disinfection Technology Transferred for Commercialization

CSIR-Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIR-CSIO), Chandigarh, has designed and developed an innovative technology for effective disinfection and sanitization to fight with corona pandemic. CSIR-CSIO has transferred this technology to a Nagpur-based company, Rite Water Solutions Pvt. Ltd., for commercialization and large-scale production.

This technology has been found very efficient and effective to stop the spread of coronavirus and pathogens, say CSIR-CSIO scientists.



HCARD, a robot, to assist frontline COVID-19 healthcare warriors

The robotic device HCARD, in short for Hospital Care Assistive Robotic Device, can help frontline healthcare workers in maintaining physical distance from those infected by coronavirus. HCARD is developed by Durgapur-based CSIR lab, Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute. The device is equipped with various state-of-the-art technologies and works both in automatic as well as manual modes of navigation

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh holds a video conference meeting with former Army Generals and Air Marshals on COVID situation in J&K, Ladakh & NE Region

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh received COVID related inputs, in the context of Northeast Region, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh from former Army Generals and Air Marshals. In his introductory remarks, Dr Jitendra Singh said, most of the former senior Generals and Air Marshals did not only have first-hand knowledge of the peculiar situation in the terrains of both Jammu & Kashmir and North Eastern Region, but as prominent members of civil society and eminent citizens after superannuation they also enjoyed distinguished role as opinion makers. He said, their inputs and suggestions were not only valuable for improving our efforts in the fight against Corona but could also give us an insight of some of the aspects viewed by them from their own perspective.

More than one crore face masks prepared by Self Help Groups across the country

More than **one crore face masks** have been made by various Self-Help Groups across the country. It shows relentless effort, positive energy and united resolve of SHGs to fight Covid-19 under DAY-NULM flagship scheme of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. At the core of this proud moment is a strong force of women entrepreneurs supported by the Mission. Their resilience is motivating others to multiply the efforts with more energy and determination. It is women empowerment safeguarding lives in true sense.

MOHUA to soon Issue Advisory on Special Measures to Save Interest of Homebuyers & All Real Estate Industry Stakeholder

An urgent meeting of Central Advisory Council (CAC) constituted under the provisions of Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 (RERA), was held through webinar under the chairmanship of Sh. Hardeep S. Puri, Minister of



State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) to discuss the impact of the pandemic COVID-19 (Corona Virus) and consequent nationwide lockdown on the real estate sector and to treat it as an event of 'Force Majeure' under the provisions of RERA.

Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad appreciates the efforts of all States and UT in the fight against Covid19

Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad held a meeting with State IT Ministers. He stated that Central Government would extend the Dept. of Telecommunication's deadline on relaxation of the norms for the 'Work from Home' from 30 April to 31 July 2020. He asked the States to support Bharat Net scheme and requested them examine right of way issues. He directed that data from Aarogya Setu app should be made available online to the States right up-to District officials. Minister also announced that a similar solution for the feature phone users is being developed and it will be launched very soon.

Private food grains (PFG) freight makes a big increase in lockdown period as compared to last year

More than 7.75 lacs tonnes (303 rakes) of PFG freight were loaded by Indian Railways during the lockdown period from 25th March to 28th April 2020 as compared to about 6.62 lacs tonnes (243 rakes) last year in same period. Indian Railways is making all efforts to ensure that farm products like food grains are picked up on time and also to ensure uninterrupted supply chain.

Smart city Kalyan-Dombivli's COVID-19 dashboard now opens for public

Kalyan Dombivli Municipal Corporation (KDMC) has recently announced that a dash board about COVID-19 situation in KDMC area is now available in public domain. The page has been linked with the website of municipal corporation, and other social media handles of city government (such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram), and is open for viewing by public.

UGC Guidelines on Examinations and Academic Calendar for the Universities in View of COVID-19 and Subsequent Lockdown

In view of Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown, the University Grants Commission constituted an Expert Committee to deliberate and make recommendations on the issues related to the Examinations and the Academic Calendar to avoid academic loss and take appropriate measures for the future of students. The Commission at its meeting accepted the Report of the Committee and approved the Guidelines on Examinations and Academic Calendar.



US proposal to limit tech exports to China

The US government's proposed new restrictions on exports of certain semiconductor and aircraft components to China would hurt the interests of US companies and further disrupt the global supply chain, experts said. According to the new rules, published on the official website of the US Department of Commerce, licenses will be needed for US companies to sell certain items to companies in China that have ties to the military, even if the products are meant for civilian use. They will also remove a civilian exception that allows certain US technology to be exported without a license. The rules were posted for public inspection and would be published in the Federal Register. The new rules blur the line between civilian and military use, which will make it difficult for some Chinese civilian companies to buy products and technologies from US companies. The move will harm the US semiconductor industry and affect sales of civil aviation parts to China.

BRICS countries agree to boost cooperation on COVID-19 fight

BRICS countries agreed to enhance collaboration in fighting against the COVID-19 pandemic. The consensus was reached during the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Extraordinary Conference on COVID-19 via video link, which was chaired by Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and gathered Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, Brazilian Foreign Minister Ernesto Araujo, Indian External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and South Africa's Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Naledi Pandor. Wang, who is also a state councilor, called on BRICS countries to "make the right call and do the right thing," as COVID-19 has put lives and health of people around the world under grave threat. "We need to champion multilateralism and the approach of consultation and cooperation for shared benefits in governance," Wang said. He encouraged countries to enhance coordination on macroeconomic policies and sustain coordination to keep up secure and smooth functioning of global industrial and supply chains.

Colombia : Progressive and responsible opening-up of select sectors of the economy

The government has opened doors, with strict protocols. 8 subsectors of the manufacturing industry were identified that could start gradually and progressively. City Mayors have been identified as leading actors to ensure compliance with biosafety protocols and that the transportation capacity of 35% is not exceeded.



OMAN : Covid-19 Supreme Committee Opens Some Businesses

The Supreme Committee tasked with tackling developments resulting from coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic held a meeting during which it decided to open some business activities. The meeting, held at the Ministry of Interior, was chaired by Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal al -Busaidi, Minister of Interior. The Committee studied topics related to economic impacts of the pandemic, particularly commercial and industrial activities. It discussed some proposed solutions that consider public health and support the reopening of some business activities. Then, the Supreme Covid-19 Control Committee, after coordinating with some departments concerned in the public and private sectors, decided to open some commercial activities.

New Saudi study to map genetic links to COVID-19

A new initiative to study and identify genetic factors that cause symptoms of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) among Saudis has been launched as part of the Kingdom's efforts to tackle the pandemic. King Abdul Aziz City for Science and Technology (KACST) in partnership with the Saudi Center for Disease Prevention and Control (Weqaya) aim to understand the differing levels of severity in COVID-19 cases among Saudis by focusing on the genetic sequence of disease carriers.

Urban rail projects to keep Chinese economy chugging along

Urban rail development is expected to be the key to sustaining China's investment on a long-term basis, as it can integrate elements from both traditional and new infrastructure projects to support the country's economic growth, industry experts said. Opportunities in the sector have risen sharply after the National Development and Reform Commission, the nation's top economic regulator, gave the green light for urban rail development projects in three cities during the first quarter of this year, including Hefei in Anhui province and Shenzhen in Guangdong province. The three projects involved a total investment of 224.8 billion yuan (\$31.74 billion).

Shanghai Digital plan for epidemic recovery covers all industries

Shanghai recently issued its plan to promote development of the online economy, focusing on 12 key aspects such as unmanned factories, industrial Internet, remote work, online finance and digital entertainment. Under the plan, the new way of doing business is described as "online, intelligent and interactive." It utilizes new technologies, such as artificial intelligence, 5G, the Internet, big data and blockchain, combining them with traditional sectors such as manufacturing, business finance, culture, education and health care. The COVID-19 outbreak, which disrupted production and lifestyles, has fueled the development of the online

economy. Shanghai authorities now want to harness those gains as a driver of the economic recovery after the pandemic.

Central Advisories and Notifications

MHA allows movement of stranded migrant workers, students, tourists and pilgrims with conditions

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on Wednesday allowed the movement of migrant workers, tourists, students and others stranded at various places. The Government of India has issued an order to states and union territories to facilitate inter-state movement of stranded people including migrant labourers in the country.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment writes to States/UTs to ensure basic physical accessibility features for divyangjan in centres for COVID-19 testing & quarantine facilities and treatment at hospitals

In a letter to the Chief Secretaries of all States and UTs, Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), has said that to mitigate the effects of the pandemic, many COVID-19 centers have been identified as containment units, isolation treatment centres and testing labs for enhancing the holding capacity for medical purposes as required. The current crisis poses even greater threats to the Divyangjan not just due to their lesser/compromised immunity, ability to perceive or comprehend information but also due to non-availability of accessibility features in the physical environment and eco-system provided at such COVID related facilities.

State Advisories and Notifications

Government of Andhra Pradesh: Containment, Control and Prevention of COVID – 19 – Additional guidelines

The State Government has issued orders to all the District Collectors, Joint Collectors, Police Commissioners, SPs, DM&HOs, Municipal Commissioners, Sub Collectors, RDOs, MROs and MPDOs instructing to strictly implement the additional guidelines issued by Ministry of Home Affairs.

Government of Andhra Pradesh: Providing three masks to each individual in the State.

The State Government has issued circular stating that Municipal Commissioners are requested to distribute 3 masks to each person keeping the cover in cover



through Ward Volunteers and request the public to use the same after thoroughly washing with detergent / Dettol.

Government of Andhra Pradesh: Consolidated Guidelines with regard to the exceptions for lock down – Partial Modifications – Certain Relaxations

The State Government, post representations received from the Industrial community from various districts like Nellore, Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam seeking certain clarifications and permissions, has issued partial modifications of the orders with few relaxations.

Government of Andhra Pradesh: Prevention and Management of COVID-19- Constitution of State Level Committee for Death Audit on COVID-19

The State Government has constituted a State Level Committee for audit of deaths related to COVID-19. The Committee has to submit its reports to the State Nodal Authority for COVID-19/Commissioner of Health & Family Welfare, A.P., Vijayawada.

Government of Andhra Pradesh: Strategies to encourage download of AROGYA SETU App by the Public for the Containment, Control and Prevention of COVID-19

The State Government has decided to encourage all Public Representatives, employees of all State Government and State PSUs and employees of all Central Government Departments and Central PSUs, Health care workers, Police and Para Military Force Officers, front-line workers, etc to download **AROGYA SETU App** in their Phones to make the Society much more safe in the context of COVID-19. The Special Chief Secretary (Health & Family Welfare) shall ensure the downloading of this App by maximum number of people during the house to house survey for COVID-19 and during surveillance activities.

Government of Rajasthan: Advisory to employers

The State Government had earlier issued advisory to all employers to retain and continue to pay the employees, during the lockdown, to minimize hardships to them. The same advisory shall be applicable for April 2020 for the purpose of making payment of salary/ wages to their employees/ laborers without any deduction.



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