



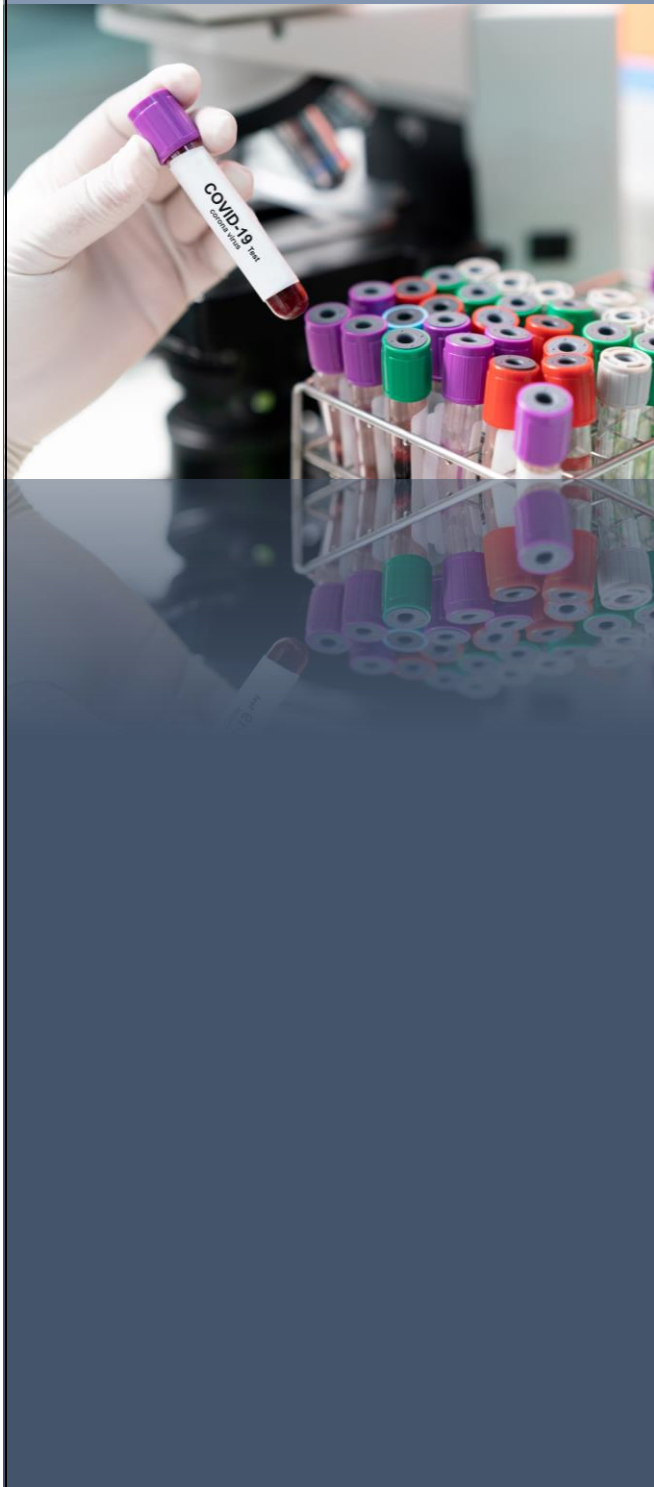
Confederation of Indian Industry  
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# COVID 19

## Updates, Notifications and Advisories

[www.ciicovid19update.in](http://www.ciicovid19update.in)

AN20, 06 April 2020



### [PM interacts with Central Ministers](#)

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi interacted with the Central Ministers via video conference. Prime Minister appreciated the leadership of the Ministers and said that the continuous feedback provided by them has been effective in strategizing for tackling COVID-19. He said it is imperative that the leaders communicate exhaustively with the state and district administration, especially in the districts which are hotspots for the pandemic, to be apprised of the ground situation and also provide solutions to the emerging problems. It is also important to ensure there is no crowding at PDS centres, maintain effective monitoring, take action on complaints and prevent black marketing and rise in prices of essentials.

### [Telephone Conversation between PM and Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia](#)

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had a telephonic conversation today with H.E. Scott Morrison, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia. The two leaders discussed the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and the domestic response strategies being adopted by their respective Governments. They agreed on the importance of bilateral experience-sharing in the context of this health crisis, including through collaborative research efforts.



### [Ministry of Science & Technology India's S&T Institutions Raise their Game Against COVID-19](#)

The Government of India is fully committed to facilitating Indian health and scientific community in the fight against COVID-19. The government scientific agencies are not leaving any stones unturned in order to provide full support to the community, researchers, private and public research labs, start-ups, incubators, entrepreneurs and industries. Funding agencies are making an effort to link national projects with global projects to share the expertise among nations, avoid duplication and speed up the entire process.

### [Newly set up Indian Railways Centralised Control Office delivers results in quick time](#)

In order to assist railway passengers, other citizens and help resolve issues in freight operations, Indian Railways has opened a Railway Control Office after declaration of Lockdown. Since its inception a few days back, the facility has become a huge management success so much so that Railway personnel have responded to over 1,25,000 queries in the first 10 days (even during the lockdown period) on designated communication platforms, 87% (over 1,09,000) of which were handled through direct human interaction over the phone.

### [Mahanadi Coalfields Limited funds the COVID-19 hospital in Bhubaneswar](#)

Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL), Coal India's subsidiary company, is funding the total operations of the hospital having 500 beds and 25 Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds with ventilators. Shri Naveen Patnaik Chief Minister, Odisha inaugurated the hospital. Government of Odisha started this hospital in Bhubaneswar today. Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas Shri Dharmendra Pradhan and Union Minister of Coal & Mines Shri Pralhad Joshi also attended the programme.

### [Coal India's subsidiary MCL to fund COVID-19 hospital in Bhubaneswar: Pralhad Joshi](#)

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### [DST supported healthcare startup developing rapid test for detection of COVID-19](#)

The Department of Science & Technology has funded 'Module Innovations', a Pune based healthcare startup working on point of care diagnostics to build up on its platform technology for rapid diagnosis of diseases to develop a product for detecting COVID 19 with a 10 to 15 minute test. Using the proven concept from its flagship product USense, Module is now developing nCoVSENSEs (TM) which is a rapid test device for detection of antibodies that have been generated against the COVID 19 in the human body. With the rapid test device it will be possible to confirm infection in patients and also determine whether an infected patient has recovered and also identify the stage of infection in the patients.



### [DST invites short-term proposals for developing antiviral Nano-coating and Nano based material for scale up by industry and start-ups to combat COVID-19](#)

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) using the Science and Engineering Board (SERB) portal invites ideas in the form of short-term proposals for developing antiviral Nano-coating and new nano based material for use in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), which can be transferred to a partnering industry or start-up for scale up. Such Nano coatings could contribute immensely in the emerging health care requirements in India's fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

### [Product from JNCASR set to be tested against COVID-19](#)

An antimicrobial coating, developed by Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), Bangalore, an autonomous institute under Department of Science & Technology (DST), has shown excellent results in tackling the spread of deadly influenza virus, the root cause of severe respiratory infections, by inactivating large loads of influenza virus. The *Science and Engineering Research Board*, a unit of the DST is supporting the further development of this coating for the country's war against COVID-19. The proven efficiency of the coating in 100% destruction of influenza virus (an enveloped virus) shows that the coating may be effective in destroying COVID 19 – another enveloped virus upon contact.

### [FCI moves 662 rakes carrying about 18.54 Lakh MT food grains across the country in 14 days since 24th March](#)

FCI has sent enough stocks to states throughout the country to implement PM Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY) wherein 5 kg food grain per person per month for next three months has to be distributed free to all National Food Security Act (NFSA) beneficiaries. Many states like UP, Bihar, Telangana, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Mizoram have already started lifting food grains from FCI under this scheme. In course of next few days other states will also start lifting the food grains for distribution under PMGKAY.

### [Denel is making ventilators, and may turn its casspirs into ambulances](#)

South African arms firm Denel is switching from making weapons to making ventilators that save lives. In a nationwide response to the novel coronavirus outbreak they say their engineers are already working round the clock on Project Sabela - now a priority project to make medical ventilators locally. Denel said it was also considering shifting operations to making sanitisers and converting Casspir mine-protected vehicles into ambulances.



### [Government of Mauritius to airlift 231 tons of medical equipment from China](#)

The Government has ordered 231 tons of medical equipment from China, which will be airlifted in a series of flights over the ten days, to help fight coronavirus.

### [Solidarity Budget: Singapore spends another S\\$5.1b to save jobs, protect livelihoods amid impending circuit breaker rules](#)

Another S\$5.1 billion has been earmarked to help Singapore weather the COVID-19 crisis in a third support package announced by Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat on Monday. Called the Solidarity Budget, it is aimed at saving jobs and protecting livelihoods during the four weeks when schools and non-essential businesses have to be shut as part of the “circuit breaker” distancing measures that will kick in from Tuesday. “These measures will impact the workers and businesses severely,” said Mr Heng as he spoke in Parliament.

### [IMF Executive Board Approves a US\\$ 165.99 Million Disbursement to the Republic of Madagascar to Address the Covid-19 Pandemic](#)

The Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) today approved a disbursement under the Rapid Credit Facility (RCF) equivalent to SDR 122.2 million (about US\$ 165.99million at today’s US\$/SDR exchange rate, or 50 percent of the quota) to help the country meet the urgent balance of payment needs stemming from the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic

### [South Africa’s lockdown restrictions could last months: report](#)

South Africa’s 21-day lockdown period could be extended by between two and four months to manage the Covid-19 coronavirus outbreak effectively, according to a report. The paper cited a report by Boston Consulting Group (BCG), which said that infections in South Africa will only peak in the beginning of June. The report said restrictions could realistically only be lifted somewhere between the end of June and the end of August.

### [South Sudan prepares step by step approach for complete lockdown](#)

After consultations with Sudan’s Higher Committee for Health Emergencies on Thursday, the Council of Ministers decided to adopt a step-by-step approach concerning an entire lockdown to combat the spread of the coronavirus (Covid-19). Additional measures are needed to compensate the loss of income of the many day workers in the country.

### [Abu Dhabi Chamber contributes AED 20 million \( \\$ 5.5 Million \) to Together We Are Good Programme](#)



In fulfilling its social responsibility towards the community, the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry has made a financial contribution of AED 20 million to the "Together We Are Good" programme, launched by the Authority of Social Contribution – Ma'an to encourage contributions from individuals, entities and companies in light of the current health and economic situation.

### Singapore must be ready for supply disruptions due to global COVID-19 lockdowns: Chan Chun Sing

Singapore needs to plan and be ready for more disruptions to its supply of food and other essentials, as lockdowns continue in exporting countries, said Minister for Trade and Industry Chan Chun Sing. Speaking in Parliament on Monday (Apr 6), Mr Chan noted COVID-19 has "severely diminished global production capacities and disrupted global supply chains" as countries worldwide restrict movement as well as close factories and other businesses.

### PepsiCo commits 25,000 COVID-19 testing kits, over 5 million meals to India

PepsiCo India, along with its parent company's philanthropic arm PepsiCo Foundation, will provide 25,000 COVID-19 testing kits and over 5 million meals to support families impacted by the coronavirus outbreak in India, the company said on Monday. The food and beverages major said it has partnered with Akshaya Patra Foundation for distribution of cooked meals, and with Smile Foundation for providing dry food ration to support meals for over 8,000 vulnerable families impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

### CORONAVIRUS- RESEARCH TRACKER : Update as on 06 April 2020

- GlaxoSmithKline that it is collaborating with Xiamen Innovax Biotech, The China-based company is attempting to develop a COVID-19 vaccine. That candidate, known as COVID-19 XWG-03, is being developed by Innovax in conjunction with researchers from Xiamen University.
- In a notification, India's Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) said there are various challenges that might arise during the conduct of clinical trials in the wake of COVID-19. The CDSCO notification adds that, since it would be difficult to adhere to all the protocol and regulations while conducting clinical trials of COVID-19 drugs in the country, researchers would be forced to make some modifications.
- Tesla engineers have designed a prototype ventilator that uses parts adapted from electric vehicles. The device shown in the video includes a touchscreen display panel, the same used in Model 3 electric sedans, that track intake of oxygen and output of carbon dioxide, a Model 3 infotainment computer system, lithium-ion battery, as well as pumps, compressors, tubes and an oxygen mixing chamber.



- The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) has announced a few more products made by its scientists with indigenous technologies to combat coronavirus pandemic.
- The government is planning to form a panel comprising industry leaders such as Mahindra & Mahindra Chairman Anand Mahindra and Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran which will develop a technology platform to contain the Covid-19 outbreak. The platform will help enable social distancing after the lockdown ends and alert people if they have been exposed to the virus.
- CSIR-CFTRI to provide coronavirus testing equipment for detection. CSIR-CFTRI is providing two PCR machines and one RNA extraction unit along with necessary chemicals to the district administration for coping with the large number of sample to be tested.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has begun preliminary studies to try to determine how many Americans have already been infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19.

**[Ports and PSUs of Ministry of Shipping contribute Rs. 52 Crore as CSR Fund to PM-CARES](#)**  
**[Posted On: 06 APR 2020 12:08PM by PIB Delhi](#)**

All Major Ports and Public Sector Undertakings under Ministry of Shipping have decided to contribute Rs.52 Crore as CSR fund to 'Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund' (PM CARES Fund) which has been created to provide relief to Coronavirus ( COVID-19) pandemic affected people.

**[769 foreign tourists from all over the country register on 'Stranded in India' portal in first five days](#)**

Assistance in various forms being rendered to those requesting for help through the portal The Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India launched a portal [www.strandedinindia.com](http://www.strandedinindia.com) on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, with a view to identify, assist and facilitate foreign tourists who are stranded in various parts of India due to the lockdown situation necessitated by the COVID19 global pandemic. Such tourists would need to log on to the portal, provide some basic contact information and narrate the nature of issues being faced by them, if any. In the first 5 days of its operation, 769 foreign tourists from all over the country registered on the portal.



## Central Advisories and Notifications

### [University Grants Commission issues advisory on Mental Health & Well-Being of Students in wake of COVID-19](#)

In view of the present scenario amidst threat of COVID-19, Union HRD Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal directed the heads of autonomous institutions coming under the Ministry to take necessary steps for *Mental Health & Well-Being* of Students in wake of COVID-19 outbreak. Accordingly, in order to address any kind of mental health and psycho-social concerns of the student community during and after COVID-19, UGC has requested all Universities and Colleges to take measures for the mental health, psychosocial aspects and well-being of the students.

### [Cabinet approves Non-operation of MPLADS for two years \(2020-21 and 2021-22\) for managing COVID 19](#)

As a part of Government's continued efforts to contain spread of COVID 19, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has decided not to operate Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) for two years (2020-21 and 2021-22). These funds will be used to strengthen Government's efforts in managing the challenges and adverse impact of COVID19 in the country.

### [MHA writes to States to give special attention on keeping the supply of Medical Oxygen smooth and hassle-free across the country](#)

As part of maintaining smooth supply of essential items in the country, Union Home Secretary, Shri Ajay Kumar Bhalla has written to all State Chief Secretaries to give special attention on keeping the supply of medical oxygen smooth and hassle free. It has been emphasized upon as there is a critical need to maintain adequate supply of medical oxygen in the country in the wake of COVID-19 Pandemic and as medical oxygen is also included in the national list and WHO's list of essential medicines.

### [Advisory regarding containing and management of COVID-19 in National Parks/Sanctuaries/Tiger Reserves.](#)

In view of the spread of COVID 19 in the country and a recent news report on a Tiger being infected with the COVID 19 in New York, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India has issued an advisory regarding containing and management of COVID-19 in National Parks/Sanctuaries/Tiger Reserves as it is felt that there are possibilities of spread of the virus amongst animals in National Parks/Sanctuaries/Tiger Reserves and also transmission of the virus from humans to animals and vice-versa.



### [Ministry of Rural Development issues advisory to States for Homemade Protective Cover for Face & Mouth](#)

The Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development has written to the Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories to motivate and facilitate stitching of masks by Ex-trainee of Rural Self Employment Training Institutes while maintaining the social distancing guidelines.

### [National Centre for Disease Control issues Guidelines for Quarantine facilities](#)

The National Centre for Disease Control issued guidelines for Quarantine facilities for the COVID-19 pandemic. This provides interim guidance for setting up of quarantine facilities and outlines several important aspects including Evaluation of Potential Sites, Risk assessment of the quarantine facility, Securing Entry and Exit points, Human resource Deployment, training, IEC, Clinical Examination and referral, Coordination, Monitoring and Supervision besides Prevention Control (IPC) measures.

## **State Advisories and Notifications**

### [Government of Andhra Pradesh: Guidelines to enable smooth Rabi harvesting and Procurement operations](#)

For ensuring that the farmers do not suffer from any adverse fall out during the lockdown period, the State Government is taking several measures for smooth harvesting of Rabi Crop. The State Government has issued orders on guidelines to Village Agriculture/ Horticulture assistants, to enable smooth Rabi harvesting and Procurement operations during COVID-19.

### [Government of Himachal Pradesh prohibits sale and use of Chewing gums/ bubble gums and other similar products.](#)

With the possibility of transmission of COVID-19 by spitting of Chewing gum, The Commissioner, Food Safety, has prohibited of sale and use of chewing gum/ bubble gum and other similar products till 30 June 2020.

### [Government of Himachal Pradesh issues office orders on appointment of nodal officer for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package.](#)

For the smooth implementation of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package, Insurance scheme for Health Workers fighting COVID-19, The State Government has designated nodal officers in respective departments.





### [Government of Tamil Nadu issues orders on Sanction of Special Incentive Package to promote manufacturing of COVID-19 related medical equipment and drugs](#)

The State Government has issued orders on sanction of Special Incentive Package to promote manufacturing of COVID-19 related medical equipment and drugs. The package, a combination of financial incentives and ease of starting business-related facilitations, will apply to manufacturers of ventilators, PPE kits, N-95 masks, multi para monitors and anti-malarial and anti-viral drugs

## **International Advisories and Notifications**

### [Ministry of Trade & Industry, Singapore: Suspension of activities at workplace premises](#)

The document from Ministry elaborates on suspension of activities at workplace premises, to prevent spread of COVID-19. These measures will have to be implemented till 4 May 2020 and will be extended, if necessary.

### [The Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development \(ADDED\) Extends Temporary Closure of Commercial Centres, Shopping Malls, Cinemas, Other Entertainment Destinations in Abu Dhabi](#)

ADDED has issued a new circular extending the temporary closure of commercial centres, shopping malls, cinemas, electronic game halls (arcades) and other entertainment destinations in the emirate of Abu Dhabi until further notice.

### [Algeria Declares Nationwide Lockdown](#)

Algerian Government on Saturday declared a nationwide lockdown to slow down the spread of COVID-19, which has claimed 130 lives in the country. The Algerian government said in a statement that a full lockdown has been maintained in the epicenter of the novel coronavirus outbreak, the province of Blida. Meanwhile, in nine provinces including Algiers a partial lockdown will continue from 3 p.m. to 7 a.m, the statement added.

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Published by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), The Mantosh Sondhi Centre; 23, Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi 110003, India, Tel: +91-11-24629994-7; Fax: +91-11-24626149; Email: info@cii.in; Web: www.cii.in

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