



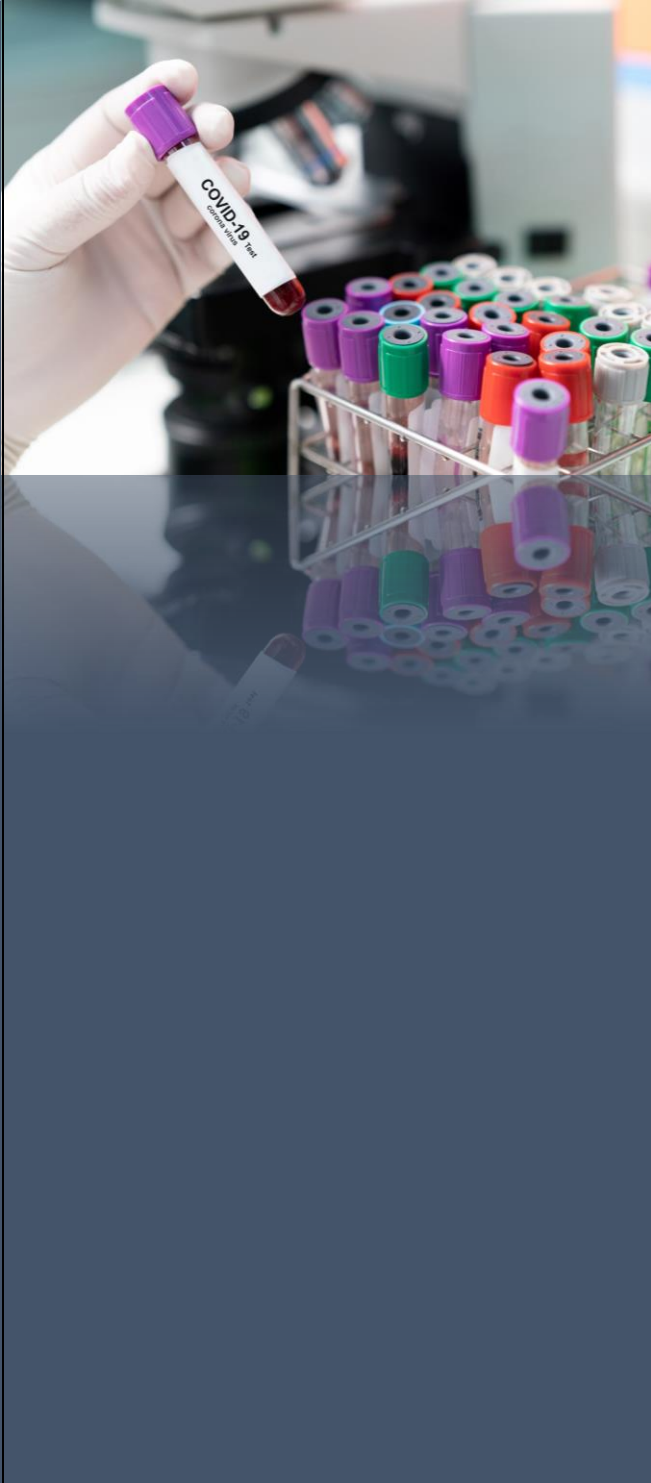
Confederation of Indian Industry  
125 Years: 1895-2020

# COVID 19

## Updates, Notifications and Advisories

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

AN23, 09 April 2020



### [Centre Approves Rs 15,000 Crore For COVID-19 Emergency Response Package](#)

A 100 per cent centrally funded five-year scheme worth Rs 15,000 crores to strengthen national and state-level health systems was approved on Wednesday by the Government of India. The COVID-19 fund from the centre will be implemented in 3 phases - from January 2020 to June 2020, July 2020 to March 2021 and April 2021 to March 2024.

### [Commerce and Industry Minister meets the Industry and traders Associations; Assures them that the Ministry is working to solve their problems](#)

Ministry of Commerce and Industry today held interaction, through Video conferencing, with various Industry and Trade associations of the country to assess the ground situation and problems being faced by them in the wake of Covid-19 and subsequent lockdown.

### [Telephone Conversation between PM and President of the Republic of Uganda](#)

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had a telephone conversation today with H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of the Republic of Uganda. The two leaders discussed the health and economic challenges arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic. Prime Minister assured H.E. President Museveni that India stands in solidarity with its friends in Africa during the present health crisis, and would extend all possible support to the Ugandan Government's efforts to control the spread of the virus in its territory.



### [Post lockdown, CII for phased reopening; Says priority must be given to mass employment sectors](#)

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has suggested to the government to follow a phased reopening plan with sectors such as manufacturing and construction, that provide mass employment. CII also sought a fiscal support package for FY21 up to 2% of the GDP to support the lowest strata and the informal sector and suggested ₹2 lakh crore be transferred to JAM account holders.

### [India US Partnership is stronger than ever says Prime Minister](#)

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today said that the India US Partnership is stronger than ever. Shri Modi was responding to a tweet from the US President H.E. Donald Trump who expressed his gratitude for India's decision to supply Hydroxychloroquine, in the USA's fight against COVID-19. Reciprocating to the US President, "Prime Minister said India shall do everything possible to help humanity".

### [GoM reviews current status, and actions for management of COVID-19](#)

A high-level meeting of the Group of Ministers (GoM) on COVID-19 was held where the GoM had detailed deliberation on containment and management of COVID-19. The GoM also discussed the actions taken so far, current status of social distancing measures as a preventive strategy and the stringent actions taken by the Centre as well as the States to contain the spread of COVID-19.

### [Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited \(TRIFED\) in collaboration with UNICEF & WHO launched digital campaign through webinar for SHGs to ensure Tribal Gatherers carry on their work safely](#)

TRIFED launched through a Webinar, Virtual training to its Trainers and Self Help Groups (SHGs) on basic orientation on Covid-19 response and key preventive measures to ensure tribal gatherers carry on their work safely. It is aimed to reach more than 18,000 participants and would cover tribal regions across all the 27 States. To ensure tribal gatherers carry on their work safely, TRIFED has collaborated with UNICEF and WHO for developing a digital communication strategy for promoting a digital campaign for Self Help Groups (SHGs) involved in this work, highlighting the importance of Social Distancing

### [World trade to fall by up to 32% in 2020: WTO](#)

World trade is expected to fall by between 13 percent and 32 percent in 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic disrupts normal economic activity and life around the world, the World Trade Organization said Wednesday in its latest report.



### [DST funded company to scale up device to enrich oxygen supply in air for treatment of COVID-19 patients](#)

Genrich Membranes, a spin-off company, based on proprietary technology licensed from CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune is being funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) to scale up membrane oxygenator equipment (MOE) that it has developed to treat COVID-19 patients.

### [Japan to spend \\$2.2 billion to get Japanese companies to exit China](#)

The Shinzo Abe government of Japan has approved a stimulus package worth whopping 108.2 trillion yen (US\$993 billion) – equal to 20 percent of Japan’s economic output – to cushion the impact of the epidemic on the world’s third-largest economy. Out of the total amount, it has earmarked US \$2.2 billion to help its manufacturers shift production out of China. 220 billion yen (\$2 billion) is pledged for Japanese companies shifting production back to Japan and the remaining 23.5 billion yen for those seeking to move production to other countries.

### [Uber, Ola offer ambulance services](#)

The Karnataka government is collaborating with Uber and Ola to provide ambulance services in Bangalore during the lockdown. Karnataka Health Minister B Sriramulu said that patients that are not affected by the coronavirus can avail about 100 cabs from the ride aggregators. Presently, 108 regular ambulances are been devoted to just Covid-19 cases in Bangalore.

### [Digital Learning sees a big upsurge during COVID-19 lockdown period](#)

As the HRD Ministry carries on with its efforts to mitigate the effects of the Covid-19 lockdown and provide students with continued access to learning during this period, e-learning in the country has witnessed an appreciable upsurge during the past two weeks.

### [CSIR- National Chemical Laboratory \(NCL\) Pune ties up with Bharat Electronics Ltd \(BEL\) for production of medical devices](#)

CSIR’s constituent Lab, CSIR-NCL Pune, has been leading the way in promoting innovation and entrepreneurship through its Venture Centre for the past decade and new innovations from there are helping in fight against the Corona outbreak. Two of the recent innovations that can help in the mitigation of the Corona are Digital IR Thermometer and the Oxygen enrichment unit (OEU). Mass manufacturing ready hardware and software design will be available to manufacturers across India for free.



### [COVID-19: Disinfection of public spaces in Smart Cities](#)

Ever since COVID-19 outbreak was declared as global pandemic, Indian Cities have been making significant efforts in sanitizing the cities, especially the **public spaces** which are considered risk prone areas for local spread of virus. Since the nation-wide lockdown was announced on 25 March 2020, Cities have been adopting numerous approaches to disinfect the public spaces including the bus/railway stations, streets, markets, hospital premises, banks, etc.

### [Smart policies help mitigate effects of the pandemic](#)

During this historic time, COVID-19 has become a truly global scourge. Prior to the pandemic, the global economy faced various challenges with many businesses already experiencing economic hardships. The United Nation Conference on Trade and Development forecasts a slowdown in the global growth to below 2.5 percent and a US \$ 1 trillion cost to the global economy due to the COVI-29 shock.

### [Southeast Asia's renewable energy transition likely to take hit from COVID-19: Experts](#)

Regional aspirations for a swift transition from fossil fuel to renewable energy are likely to be dashed by the economic and market crises triggered by the global COVID-19 outbreak, experts say Southeast Asian nations already struggling to meet climate change targets will find those goals further from reach, with the unprecedented health emergency becoming the principal priority and a major economic burden.

### [Shri Narendra Singh Tomar chairs meeting with State Agriculture Ministers to review relief steps for farmers; appreciates the efforts of States for their proactive role in undertaking agriculture activities even during the challenging time in wake of COVID-19](#)

The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar held a meeting with the States through Video Conferencing. The crucial issues related to farming operations and harvesting, agriculture marketing and Mandi operations, procurement at MSP, provision of inputs (seeds and fertilizers) and issues related to logistics and movement of agriculture/horticulture produce were discussed with Agriculture Ministers of the States, APCs, Secretaries and other senior officers of the States.

### [Several Measures Taken by ESIC to Extend Relief During The COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has undertaken multiple steps to provide relief to its Stakeholders and members of public. ESIC Hospitals with 1042 Isolation Beds across India have been declared as Covid-19 Dedicated Hospitals.



### **SCTIMST scientists design super absorbent material for safe management of infected respiratory secretions**

Scientists at Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) an autonomous institute under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Govt of India have designed and developed a highly efficient superabsorbent material for liquid respiratory and other body fluid solidification and disinfection for the safe management of infected respiratory secretions. The material is titled 'Chitra Acrylosorb Secretion Solidification System'

### **Indian Railways has produced about 6 lakhs reusable face masks, over 40000 litres hand sanitiser All Railway Zones, Production Units and PSUs are involved; Some Zones have taken lead**

In continuation of the measures taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Indian Railways is making all out efforts to supplement the health care initiatives of Government of India. In this direction Indian Railways is producing reusable face masks and sanitizer in-house in all its Zonal Railways, Production Units and PSUs. Indian Railways produced total 582317 nos. of reusable face masks and 41882 litres hand sanitiser in-house in its Zonal Railways, Production Units and PSUs till 7th April 2020.

### **Public and private airline operators and related agencies work tirelessly to serve collective purpose of fighting Covid-19; Medical cargo being delivered with appropriate safety measures**

During Covid-19 lockdown period, essential medical supplies including consignments of ICMR, HLL and others are continuously being delivered across the country. Domestic public and private airline operators such as Air India, IAF, Pawan Hans, Indigo and Blue Dart transport medicines, ICMR consignments, HLL consignments and other essential supplies to Srinagar, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru, Bhubaneswar and other regions of the country on 8th April 2020. Ministry of Civil Aviation is also coordinating for delivery of cargo of Ministry of Health, Ministry of Textiles, Department of Posts etc. so that the collective purpose of making the essential medical supplies to people in all parts of the country is served. Due safety protocols are followed at every stage - from collection of cargo to entire process of transportation till delivery at the destination.

### **Federal Reserve unleashes another \$2.3 trillion to support the economy**

Federal Reserve is continuing its extraordinary efforts to prop up the US economy in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. The central bank announced a new \$2.3 trillion round of loans that include even more support for small businesses and consumers — and, for the first time, for states, cities and municipalities, too. The Fed said Thursday that it is creating a Municipal Liquidity Facility with up to \$500 billion in loans and \$35 billion in credit protection in order to "help state and local governments manage cash flow stresses caused by the coronavirus pandemic."



### [Over 8.5 Lacs cooked meals to needy people distributed by Railways since 28th March in keeping with its social service commitment](#)

Indian Railways which started provide cooked meals to needy people after the lockdown due to COVID-19, continues to provide bulk cooked food with paper plates for lunch and food packets for dinner through IRCTC base kitchens, RPF resources and contribution of NGOs, in keeping with its social service commitment. The food distribution is being done to the poor, destitutes, beggars, children, coolies, migrant labourers, stranded persons and whoever else comes in search of food at and near the railway stations, and even at some distances away from the railway stations.

### [NGOs permitted to buy food grains directly from FCI for Relief operations](#)

NGOs and Charitable Organizations are playing important role in providing cooked food to thousands of poor and needy people during this time of nationwide lockdown. To ensure uninterrupted supply of foodgrain to these organization Government has directed FCI to provide Wheat and Rice to such organizations at the Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) rates without going through the e-auction process.

### [MoHUA Launches Revised Version of Swachhata App to Handle Queries Specific to COVID 19](#)

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs yesterday announced the launch of a revised version of the existing Swachhata- MoHUA App, at a video conference (VC) held with all States, Union Territories (UTs) and cities, under the Chairmanship of Secretary – MoHUA, on the COVID 19 crisis. The Swachhata-MoHUA App, a highly popular grievance redressal tool for citizens under the ambit of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) already has over **1.7 Crore+ urban users across the country**. This app has now been modified and strengthened further in order to enable citizens to get their COVID-related complaints also redressed by their respective ULBs.

### [Indian Navy Provides Rations for Stranded Migrant Labourers in Mumbai](#)

In order to provide assistance to those in need during the COVID-19 lockdown in Mumbai, the Indian Navy has provided ration packets consisting basic food items to the State Govt. authorities for distribution amongst stranded migrant labourers.

### [Govt ensuring Adequate availability of Fertilisers in the country : Gowda](#)

Union Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister Shri DV Sadananda Gowda has said that Department of Fertilizers of his Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers is making all efforts to ensure an adequate supply of fertilizers for the upcoming Kharif season. In a tweet Shri Gowda said that as of now, availability position is comfortable.





### [Government informs States/UTs of a slew of decisions as a follow-up to the Union Agriculture Minister's video conference with State Agriculture Ministers](#)

The Union Minister for Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar took a Video Conference with the Agriculture Ministers of all States and UTs, to discuss the issues related to farmers and farming activities, arising due to the lockdown in wake of COVID 19 pandemic. Many important decisions have been taken by Government of India in follow up of those deliberations and the same have been communicated to all States/UTs

### [Xi: Prepare for effects of world's woes](#)

China should fully prepare to deal with changes from the external environment for quite a long time given the continued spread of COVID-19 globally and the downward pressure facing the world economy, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, said on Wednesday.

### [Contagion control rules to continue in Hubei](#)

Wuhan will continue to enforce strict controls on residential communities to prevent a rebound of the novel coronavirus after the capital of Hubei province was reconnected with the outside world on Wednesday.

### [Analysts see few risks for country from dollar shortage](#)

China is unlikely to have funding difficulties due to the global dollar shortage, given its large foreign exchange reserves and the opportunities for overseas investors, experts said on Wednesday.

### [China: Cross-border e-commerce gains traction](#)

Cross-border e-commerce is set to play a bigger role in revitalizing foreign trade, judging by the string of measures enacted by the public and private sectors to salvage the segment ravaged by the novel coronavirus outbreak.

### [Shanghai City welcomes new batch of key companies](#)

Shanghai presented certificates to a new batch of 21 regional headquarters and 10 research and development centers of transnational enterprises on Wednesday. Among the 31 companies are two Global Fortune 500 enterprises.

### [China to further smooth tax exemptions for some imports from US](#)

China will provide more convenience for domestic firms to apply for the exemption of additional tariffs imposed on some US products by optimizing an online declaration system, the Customs Tariff Commission of China's State Council said Tuesday.



### [AIIB approves emergency loan to support China's public health infrastructure](#)

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank has approved a sovereign-backed loan of 2.485 billion yuan (US\$355 million) to help upgrade China's sustainable public health infrastructure and provide emergency equipment and supplies amid the COVID-19 outbreak.

### [Coronavirus poses new test for China's hi-tech trade as pandemic adds to US trade war pressure](#)

China's position in the global value chain for hi-tech goods could see further destabilisation from the coronavirus outbreak. Already tested by a trade war with the US, China faces increased pressure from disruptions to global supply chains and international consumption.

### [Chinese medical team arrives Nigeria with 16-ton test kits, ventilators, others](#)

The 15-man medical team from China, who are said to be experts in infectious diseases, respiratory illness, intensive care, cardiology, neurology, general surgery and anesthesiology, arrived with 16-ton test kits, ventilators, disinfection machine, disposable medical masks, drugs, infrared thermometer and other items ordered by the Federal Government.

## **Central Advisories and Notifications**

### [Extension of premium payment period for Postal Life Insurance & Rural Postal Life Insurance till 30th June 2020](#)

In view of the threat posed by the outbreak of Corona Virus (COVID-19), and the complete lockdown across India, Central/State Governments have issued several advisories and imposed restrictions on the movement of general public. Postal Life Insurance/Rural Postal Life Insurance customers are facing difficulty in approaching post offices for payment of premia although many Post Offices are functional as part of essential services.

### [Food grains to be provided to non-NFSA beneficiaries with ration cards issued by State governments](#)

Government of India has directed Food Corporation of India (FCI) to provide food grains @5 Kg per person per month for 3 months at the rates of Rs. 21/Kg for wheat and Rs. 22/Kg for rice uniformly across the country to all beneficiaries not covered under NFSA to whom ration cards have been issued by state governments under their schemes. States have been given the option to lift these stocks in one go or on monthly basis over 3 months up to June 2020.





### [Jail term for not wearing mask when outside home in Delhi](#)

Not wearing a mask while stepping out of house in Delhi may land one in jail for up to six months, according to an order issued by Chief Secretary Vijay Dev to contain the spread of the contagious coronavirus disease. The chief secretary said violators will strictly be punished under Section 188 (Disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant) of the Indian Penal Code.

### [ICMR- National Institute of Virology \(ICMR-NIV\): SOPs for detection of COVID-19 in suspected human cases](#)

ICMR-NIV releases SOPs to provide interim guidance to laboratories and stakeholders involved in laboratory testing of patients who meet the definition of suspected case of pneumonia associated with a novel coronavirus identified in Wuhan, China.

### [Indian Council of Medical Research invites application from Government & Private Medical Colleges for setting up COVID-19 testing facility.](#)

ICMR invites applications from all Government and Private Medical Colleges for establishing a COVID-19 testing facility. A detailed guidance on requirements for infrastructure and consumables for real time PCR testing facility, etc is given.

### [Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: “India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package”](#)

MoHFW in its letter to Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretary/ Commissioners for all States and UTs have informed that the Government of India has approved the “India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package” which will be implemented in three phases during the period January 2020 to March 2024. The letter also mentions about the key activities to be implemented during the Phase 1.

## **State Advisories and Notifications**

### [Rajasthan State Government issues clarification regarding pass for the workers for exempted industry](#)

Rajasthan Government has issued a clarification on issue pass for travel of staff / labour for the above category by competent authority subject to overall monitoring by the Incident Commander.



### [Office of the Commissioner of Customs, City Customs Commissionerate, Bangalore issues public notice on extension of time limits under Customs Act, 1962 and issues Rules and Regulations.](#)

Office of the Commissioner of Customs, City Customs Commissionerate, Bangalore in its public notice stated that time limit specified under the Customs Act, 1962 for various activities like completion of any proceeding or issuance of an order, filing of any appeal, reply or application of any report, etc, which falls during the period 20 March- 29 June 2020 or such other date the Central Government notified for completion or compliance of such actions, stand extended to 30 June 2020, such other date after 30 June 2020, the Central Government may, by notification specify.

### [Punjab State Power Corporation Limited: Relief to the electricity consumers in the State for mitigating the impact of COVID-19.](#)

To mitigate the impact of COVID-19, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Punjab has announced relief measures to electricity consumers, which includes i) Due date of electricity bills of Domestic and Commercial consumers, payable on or after 20 March 2020 has been extended to 20 April 2020; iii) Fixed charges for Medium Supply and Large Supply Industrial consumers are exempted for next 2 months from the date of lockdown i.e. 23 March 2020

### [Government of Haryana: Status of disbursement of second weekly installment of Subsistence Financial Assistance to the registered construction workers](#)

An amount of Rs 35,06,21,000 was released on 6 April 2020 as second installment of subsistence financial assistance to 350621 workers @Rs 1000 per family per week, directly to the Adhaar linked bank accounts of the construction workers.

### [Government of Andhra Pradesh: Comprehensive Fund Management guidelines](#)

The State Government has issued orders detailing funds released under the SDRF and permitted to be used by the Government of India under DMF, so far, for the prevention, control and management of the CoVID-19 pandemic. These funds are also relocated to different districts, after careful reassessment of the fund requirement by the HM&FW Department, duly taking into consideration the availability of funds and based on the vulnerability of district.

### [Government of West Bengal sets up dedicated Data Analysis Cell](#)

The State Government has set up a nine member dedicated Data Analysis Cell, to examine data, to detect patterns, use data analytic tools to provide predictions of the disease outbreak, advise on pockets or likely areas for additional testing, advise Government in pre-empting and improving disease surveillance, etc



### [Gurugram declares Containment Zones](#)

In the Order issued by the District Administration, Gurugram nine Containment Zones has been declared, with the objective to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The Order also prescribes action plan for screening of suspects, testing of suspected cases, quarantine, isolation, social distancing and other public health measures in Containment Zones.

## **International Advisories and Notifications**

### [The Monetary Authority of Singapore \(MAS\) extends Digital Bank Assessment Period in view of COVID-19 pandemic.](#)

The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) said it has extended the assessment period for approving digital bank licenses, citing the global escalation of the COVID-19 pandemic. Successful applicants will be informed in the second half of this year instead of in June, as originally intended, the central bank said on Thursday.

### [Singapore issues COVID-19 \(Temporary Measures\) Act 2020](#)

Under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Bill, the Government has included provisions to provide the legal basis in order to enforce the enhanced safe distancing measures. These are temporary measures specific to the COVID-19 situation we are facing currently. The Bill will be valid for six months, Law and Home Affairs Minister K Shanmugam had said earlier, with the Minister for Law given power to extend it for up to a year. Mr Gan highlighted that the circuit breaker measures designed to limit the spread of COVID-19 will be imposed until May 4.

### [COVID-19: Additional safe distancing measures implemented on public transport](#)

Additional safe distancing measures are being implemented on public transport networks as Singapore steps up efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19. Safe distancing stickers will be progressively rolled out on all trains, train stations, buses, bus stops and bus interchanges to mark out spaces and seats that should be avoided by commuters

### [Bahrain to support 100,000 private sector salaries with \\$570m relief initiative](#)

The Kingdom of Bahrain is to support the wages of 100,000 of its citizens working in the private sector with a \$570 million relief initiative covering April, May and June 2020. Bahrain's Minister of Labor and Social Development, Jamil Humaidan, said the government guarantee is part of liquidity for the private sector to help mitigate the social and economic impacts of the current global health crisis. The assistance will also maintain the growth of the private sector and enhance its vital role in supporting the national economy

### [South African President, Cyril Ramaphosa statement on Measures to combat the COVID-19 Epidemic.](#)



**COVID 19**

**Updates, Notifications and Advisories**

South African President, Cyril Ramaphosa in his statement outlined the measures taken for combating COVID-19 epidemic. The National Coronavirus Command Council has decided to extend the nationwide lockdown by a further two weeks beyond the initial 21 days.

**[Egypt extends nationwide night-time curfew by two additional weeks](#)**

Egypt extended the nationwide night-time curfew by two additional weeks, Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly said, as the country's coronavirus infection tally continues to rise. The curfew, first imposed on 25 March, will continue to be in effect until 23 April.

**[Click here to download the complete document](#)**

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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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