



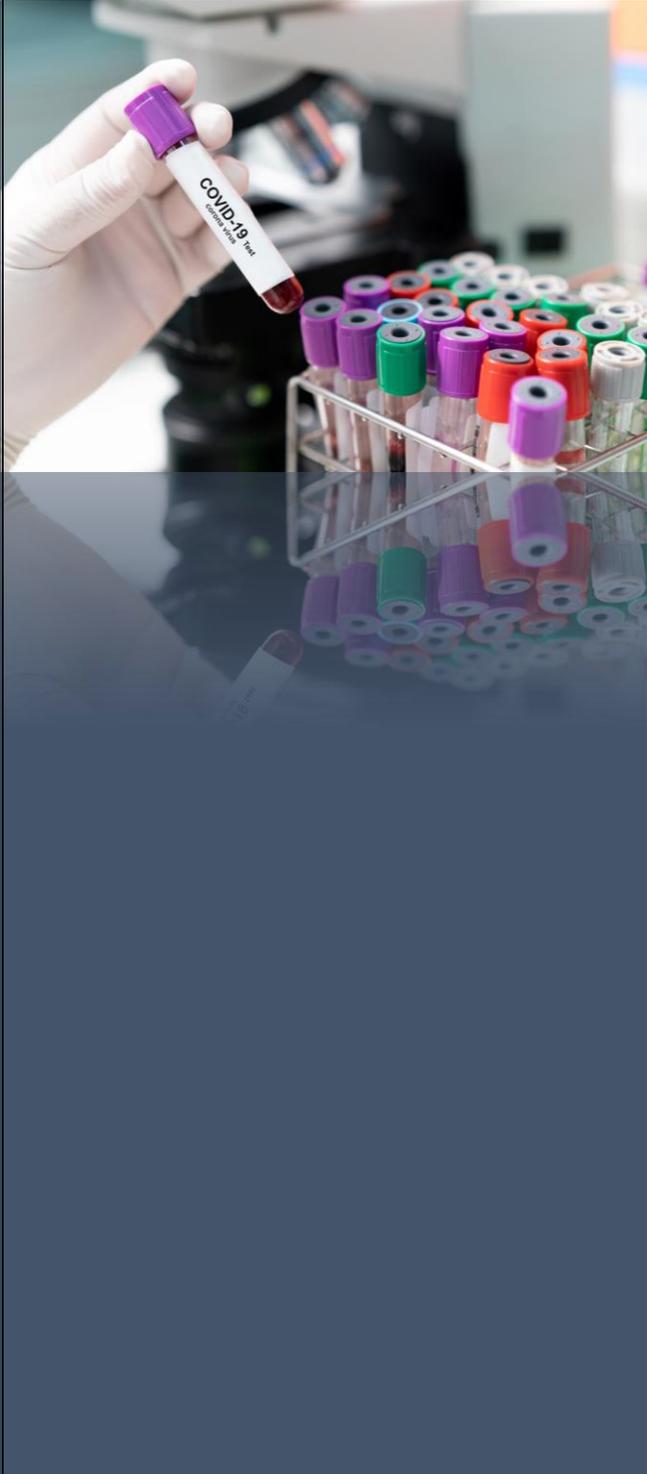
Confederation of Indian Industry  
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# COVID 19

## Updates, Notifications and Advisories

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AN27, 13 April 2020



### [Telephone conversation between Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.](#)

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had a telephone conversation today with H.E. Mr. Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The two leaders discussed the situation arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic and the steps being taken to address this challenge. The leaders agreed on the potential for bilateral collaboration in fighting COVID-19, including for facilitating supplies of required medical equipment. They also committed to provide necessary support to each other's citizens present in their territories. Both leaders stressed the importance of the Strategic Partnership between India and Vietnam and expressed satisfaction at the recent progress on various fronts.

### [Vice President asks universities to ensure continuity of academic calendar during lockdown](#)

The Vice President of India, Shri M Venkaiah Naidu tasked Universities and other educational institutions to harness fully the power of technology to ensure continuity of academic calendar during the lockdown period. The Vice President observed that it might take some more time for normalcy to return and enquired about their plans to cope with the disruption caused by COVID-19 pandemic.



### [2020 Latin American and Caribbean Macroeconomic Report: Policies to Fight the Pandemic](#)

The Inter-American Development Bank-IADB has released a report titled "2020 Latin American and Caribbean Macroeconomic Report: Policies to Fight the Pandemic". It outlines all the fiscal and monetary policies already being taken by countries in the region and looks at possible economic scenarios.

### [Korea: Rules to harmonize quarantine with daily life proposed](#)

The government began surveying the public on "lifestyle quarantine measures" under new core rules that seeks to allow the normal pursuit of daily life while minimizing the potential for damage by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### [Enough Production and Availability of medicines and devices being ensured : Union Pharma Secretary](#)

Indian Pharma industry is producing enough stocks of essential medicines particularly HCQ to meet both domestic demand and to meet export obligations. The production and transportation is being ensured throughout the country by the Department with help of State/UT administrations. This position emerged after a Video Conference(VC) held under chairmanship of Secretary of Department of Pharmaceuticals, Dr P D Vaghela to review the operations and issues of the pharmaceutical and Medical Devices industry.

### [Rating agencies downgrade Indonesian companies on debt repayment concerns amid COVID-19](#)

International rating agencies are questioning Indonesian companies' ability to repay their debts and have consequently downgraded their ratings and outlooks amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The rationale behind the ratings decisions varies for each company but revolves around liquidity risks, concerns over debt repayment ability, a sharp rupiah depreciation, low commodity prices and overall weak demand.

### [Rural Women from Assam prepare products like hand sanitizer, homemade mask to combat COVID19](#)

Rural Women Technology Park (RWTP) under CSIR-North East Institute of Science and Technology, Jorhat, Supported by SEED Division, Department of Science and Technology (DST), have engaged rural women to prepare various products such as hand sanitizer, homemade mask, and liquid disinfectant to be distributed freely among family members and poor people in the nearby village to help combat COVID 19 in the area.



### [Steps taken to facilitate the farmers and farming activities at field level during the lock down period](#)

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, Government of India is taking several measures to facilitate the farmers and farming activities at field level during the lock down period. Rs. 16,621 crores have been released under PM-KISAN Scheme to 8.31 crore farmer families 3,985 MT of pulses has been dispatched for delivery to the States/UTs under PM-GKY

### [44 Evacuees Return Home from Naval Quarantine Camp at Ghatkopar Mumbai](#)

The Indian Navy Quarantine Facility at Material Organization, Ghatkopar, Mumbai has silently and successfully completed the task of quarantining 44 evacuees (including 24 women) from Iran. In all, the 44 individuals spent 30 days in the facility commencing 13 Mar 20, ending with each testing negative for COVID-19 on 28 Mar.

### [Airlines cover more than 2 lakh km under Lifeline Udan to transport medical supplies across the nation](#)

Over 218 Lifeline Udan flights have been operated by Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) to transport essential medical cargo to remote parts of the country to support India's war against COVID-19. Civil Aviation Minister tweeted that Cargo transported till date is around 377.50 tons and the aerial distance covered by Lifeline Udan flights till date is over 2,05,709 km. 132 of these flights have been operated by Air India and Alliance Air. The Cargo load carried on 12th April 2020 was 4.27 Tons. The Ministry of Civil Aviation and the aviation industry is determined to support India's war against COVID-19 by transporting medical air-cargo within India and abroad in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

### [ICMR issues list of operational Government Laboratories](#)

The Indian Council of Medical Research has issued a list of total operational (initiated independent testing) Government Laboratories reporting to ICMR in 33 States and Union Territories.

### [ICMR: Augmented plan to fast-track the COVID-19 testing laboratory scale-up](#)

ICMR has taken cognizance of the need to expeditiously expand COVID-19 testing facilities in all parts of the country. As per directives of Hon'ble Union Minister of Home Affairs & Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, under a core team of Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi; Director and Director General, ICMR, a total of 14 Centres of Excellence have been designated. These Centres have been delegated a responsibility of mentoring all the Govt. & Private Medical Colleges in their catchment area and eventually create state-of-art molecular virology setups.



### [CII bats for battered Steel Industry](#)

With a slowdown of all economic activities due to nationwide lockdown amidst steep drop in margins, the steel industry is likely to face huge drop in sales along with stress on margins. CII has recommended the interest payment to be deferred, fixed charges on energy waived and to support demand growth, implementation of the Auto scrapping Policy should be expedited.

### [CII: Calibrated Approach Needed to Exit Shutdown](#)

CII has recommended that the Government should take a calibrated approach looking at the geographical spread of COVID-19 cases and sectors related to agriculture, essential commodities, exports among others must be prioritized in easing restrictions. The Confederation has also suggested that stimulus must precede lifting of lockdown.

### [Community Kitchens run by SHG Women provide food to the most poor and vulnerable in Rural Areas during the COVID-19 lockdown](#)

The presence of the Self-Help Group (SHG) network in every Gram Panchayat and the linkage with Local Self Governments were important factors in assigning the operation of community kitchens/Didi's cafes to them. 10,000 community kitchens have been set up across five states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Odisha, to name a few. These kitchens spread across 75 different districts have been providing meals twice a day to nearly 70,000 individuals who are vulnerable and needy. Other states are also running such initiatives. Self Help Groups across the country have responded with various initiatives to ensure continued access to essential services. Women collectives are also supporting front line health workers in the delivery of essential child, adolescent & maternal health and nutrition-related entitlements

### [IUSSTF boosts Indo-US virtual networks to address COVID 19 challenges](#)

The Indo-U.S. Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF), has invited Proposals for 'COVID-19 Indo-U.S. Virtual Networks' that would allow Indian and U.S. scientists and engineers currently engaged in COVID related research to carry out joint research activities through a virtual mechanism, leveraging existing infrastructure and funding. Proposals that convincingly demonstrate the benefits and value of the Indo-U.S. partnership to advance research and address critical challenges related to COVID-19 are encouraged.

### [Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package: Progress so far](#)

In order to ensure that weaker sections of the society continue to get the basic amenities and do not get impacted during the lock down period due to COVID 19, Rs1.70 lakh crore Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP) was announced on 26th March 2020 to protect such people from the impact of the lockdown. As part of this package, the Government announced free food grains and cash payment to women and poor senior



citizens and farmers. The swift implementation of the package is being continuously monitored by Central and State governments. Finance Ministry, the concerned Ministries, Cabinet Secretariat and PMO.

### [Xinhua: Economic activities regaining vitality in world's largest market.](#)

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to ebb away across China, economic activities begin to pick up in the world's largest market, with business resuming operation and consumption gaining momentum.

### [China to ease urban residency restrictions to boost urbanization](#)

China plans to ease restrictions for rural residents applying for urban household registration status and allow more people to enjoy public services. Cities with resident population of less than 3 million should remove all barriers for rural residents to apply for urban household registration.

## **Central Advisories and Notifications**

### [Office of Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India issues simple guidelines, for controlling spread of COVID-19 in densely populated areas](#)

The Office of Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India issued guidelines, with precautions and measures, for controlling the spread of COVID-19 in densely populated areas. These relate to areas where toilets, washing or bathing facilities are shared. The key goal of the proposed measures is to emphasise sanitation and hygienic practices and suggest key interventions that can greatly help in controlling the spread of the disease.

### [ICMR issues advisory on pooling samples of coronavirus](#)

Amid spurt in COVID-19 cases in India, the ICMR issued an advisory on the feasibility of using pooled samples for molecular testing of coronavirus as part of an effort to increase the number of tests in the country.

## **State Advisories and Notifications**

### [Government of Goa issues order on resuming operations of all its Department.](#)

General Administration Department in its order has stated that the State Government has decided to resume operations of all its Departments and has directed all officers of All India Service, Goa Civil and Police services, other Goa general services, etc to attend offices



regularly from 13 April 2020 and rest Government employees to attend offices from 15 April 2020.

### [Government of Maharashtra notification on extension of lockdown orders](#)

The State Government has issued orders on extending the lockdown in the State to 30 April 2020, in view of the current threat caused by the COVID-19.

### [Vadodara Municipal Corporation: Order for wearing Masks](#)

Vadodara Municipal Corporation has issued orders that all persons when in public place within the jurisdiction of the Corporation shall compulsorily wear masks and a penalty of Rs 1000 will be levied on first time violators and subsequent violations will attract penalty of Rs 5000 in each case.

### [Surat Municipal Corporation: Order for wearing Masks](#)

Surat Municipal Corporation has issued orders that all persons when in public place within the jurisdiction of the Corporation shall compulsorily wear masks and a penalty of Rs 1000 will be levied on first time violators and subsequent violations will attract penalty of Rs 5000 in each case.

### [Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation: Order for wearing Masks](#)

Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation has issued orders that all persons when in public place within the jurisdiction of the Corporation shall compulsorily wear masks and a penalty of Rs 1000 will be levied on first time violators and subsequent violations will attract penalty of Rs 5000 in each case.

### [Government of Andhra Pradesh: Orders on prohibiting use and spitting of chewing smokeless tobacco products in public places.](#)

Government of Andhra Pradesh issued an order prohibiting general public from consuming the smokeless tobacco or chewable tobacco / non-tobacco product, sputum etc and spitting in public places / institutions with immediate effect during the Covid epidemic. Violation of the order is punishable under the provisions of Indian Penal Code -1860 and Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.Pc).

### [Government of Telangana: lockdown extension](#)

The State Government has issued orders on extension of the lockdown period in the State till 30 April 2020.



### [Government of Punjab: Disposal of unclaimed dead bodies of COVID-19 patients](#)

The State Government in its memo to all Deputy Commissioners and Civil Surgeons of the State has written that in the exigency of death of a COVID-19 patient, the concerned Hospital has to prepare the dead body as per mentioned protocols in the memo, and a separate area should be earmarked in the isolation centre for this activity.

### [Arunachal Pradesh extends lockdown from April 14 to 30](#)

The Arunachal Pradesh government on Monday extended the lockdown imposed to contain the spread of novel coronavirus from April 14 to 30. The lockdown has been extended till April 30, Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar said. Only state-run buses will be allowed to ply on the roads. Construction work will be allowed to resume after contractors seek permission from authorities concerned, but migrant labourers cannot be employed, a senior official said.

### [Covid-19: Top health official in Tamil Nadu issues orders banning use of disinfection tunnels](#)

A letter has been issued to all health officials in Tamil Nadu, asking them not to permit the use of disinfection tunnels. The disinfectants will work on surfaces but not on the human body and can even harm people. "Spraying alcohol or chlorine all over your body will not kill viruses that have already entered your body. Spraying such substances [alcohol or chlorine] can be harmful to clothes or mucous membranes [eyes and mouth]," WHO said in its advice to the public.

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