



Confederation of Indian Industry
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COVID 19

Updates, Notifications and Advisories

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PM announces extension of lockdown till 3 May 2020: India's fight against COVID-19

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today announced the extension of lockdown till 3 May 2020. Addressing the Nation in combating the spread of the corona virus, PM said the extension of lockdown was decided keeping in mind suggestions from many states, experts and the people. He requested people to continue maintaining vigil and to adhere to social distancing during this lockdown. Prime Minister also suggested that those areas which are of low risk may be permitted to open for certain specific activities from 20th April 2020.

The decision to extend the Nation-wide lockdown to fight COVID-19 till 3rd May taken to protect lives of the People: Shri Amit Shah

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Prime Minister for this decision and said that the decision by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to extend the lockdown, put in place to fight and end COVID-19, till 3rd May, has been taken to protect lives of the people of the country. Describing the coordination between the Centre and the States as very important to deal with this epidemic and to meet every need of the citizens, the Home Minister said that the way all the State Governments are working together with the Central Government is truly laudable. This coordination needs to be intensified so that all citizens follow the lockdown properly and no one faces any problem to access things of their everyday needs, he added.



[ESIC Further Extends Period for Filing ESI Contribution](#)

Considering the hardship being faced by employers, the period for filing ESI contribution for the month of February has been further extended from earlier extended period i.e. 15th April to 15th May 2020. The period for filing contribution for the month of March 2020 is also 15th May 2020. No penalty or interest or damage will be levied on establishments during the extended period.

[Government initiates dialogue to resurrect Agri sector exports in the aftermath of current COVID-19 crisis](#)

Government has initiated a dialogue with the exporters of Agri and Allied commodities to address issues affecting the sector as a fallout of the lockdown to check the COVID-19 disease. Following directions from the Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, a video conference was held to gain a first-hand account of the problems being faced by the exporters of Agri and Allied commodities and initiate necessary steps by making meaningful interventions for early redressal of their problems to help them sustain through the current Covid-19 crisis.

[Travel and VISA restrictions related to COVID-19: DGCA](#)

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation has issued a Circular stating all scheduled international commercial passenger shall remain closed till May 3, 2020.

[Indian Navy ensures 24 x 7 operations from Visakhapatnam airfield in support of air operations during COVID-19 lockdown](#)

With the nationwide lockdown to prevent spread of virus during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, INS Dega of Eastern Naval Command (ENC) ensured that the joint-user airfield at Visakhapatnam remains open round the clock. The manning of the airfield has been modified to ensure that all requisite safety services and airfield facilities continued to be available. This ensured that all special flights, as well as, the cargo flight of SpiceJet continued its operations unhindered. So far, 15 sorties of the cargo flight have operated since the lockdown has been enforced.

[NIOS of HRD Ministry initiates a unique method to ensure effective schooling to reach the unreachable directly at doorstep.](#)

Under the direction of MHRD, The National Institute of Open Schooling (**NIOS**) has initiated a unique method to ensure effective schooling to reach directly at doorstep. Fulfilling the objectives of quality education, content is being made available online through 'SWAYAM' Massive Online Open Courses (MOOC platform) of MHRD for various subjects from class 9th to 12th. Along with Self Learning Material, 'SWAYAM' portal provides video lectures and facility of self-assessment. The questions and queries of the learners are also being resolved through discussions forum. In addition, for those who



do not have much access to internet, these video lectures are telecast on MHRD SWAYAMPRAKASH TV channels with Live sessions to interact with their teachers and subject experts.

[20 control rooms set up to address wage related grievances of workers](#)

Ministry of Labour and Employment has set up 20 control rooms under the Office of Chief Labour Commissioner on pan India basis due to issues arising in the backdrop of Covid-19. These control rooms have been set up to address wage related grievances of workers employed in Central Sphere and to mitigate the problems of migrant workers through coordination with various state governments.

[All passenger train services cancelled till 3rd May 2020 in view of COVID 19 lockdown](#)

In continuation of the measures taken in the wake of COVID-19 Lockdown, all passenger train services on Indian Railways including Premium trains, Mail/Express trains, Passenger trains, Suburban Trains, Kolkata Metro Rail, Konkan Railway etc continues to remain cancelled till 3rd May 2020. To ensure the essential supplies in various parts of the country, movement of goods and Parcel trains will continue.

[ASEAN must mount united response to Covid-19 pandemic, should not lose sight of longer-term goals: PM Lee](#)

Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong in his address at the Special ASEAN Summit on Covid-19 via video conference said that ASEAN must mount a united response to the coronavirus pandemic as the region is deeply connected and interdependent. He suggested that countries can work together by sharing information, collaborating to keep trading routes and supply lines open and building resilience to deal with future economic shocks. At the same time, ASEAN should not lose sight of longer-term objectives, which are key to enabling economies to survive and recover once the storm is past, said PM Lee.

[Coronavirus | India to get 15 million PPE kits from China](#)

Indian companies and government entities have placed orders for 15 million Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits, including gowns and masks, and 1.5 million rapid testing kits from China. The Indian government is calling on China to fulfil those orders, amid concerns over tightened regulations on exporting such equipment by Chinese authorities following criticism from several European countries over the quality of exports.



[DRDO develops kiosk for COVID-19 sample collection](#)

Defence Research & Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad has added another product to the portfolio of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to combat Coronavirus (COVID-19) by developing COVID Sample Collection Kiosk (COVSACK). The unit has been developed by DRDL in consultation with the doctors of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), Hyderabad. The COVSACK is a kiosk for use by healthcare workers for taking COVID-19 samples from suspected infected patients. Patient under test walks into the Kiosk and a nasal or oral swab is taken by health care professional from outside through the built-in gloves.

[General Authority for Investment and Free Zones \(GAFI\) issues set of facilitation and incentive measures for projects running in all investment and free zones across Egypt](#)

As a part of the state's plans to mitigate the impact of coronavirus pandemic on the economy, the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI) has issued a set of facilitation and incentive measures for projects running in all investment and free zones across Egypt. Under the new measures, the GAFI projects will be allowed to sell up to 50 percent of their products at the local markets for six months, except for a list of previously banned products, according to a statement issued by the Cabinet media center. The measures encompass extending to six months the grace period granted for GAFI projects to beef up their financial guarantees and renew their insurance policies.

[OFB to manufacture 1.10 lakh ISO Class 3 coveralls](#)

Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) has started supply of coveralls conforming to ISO Class 3 exposure standards. Manufacture of initial order of 1.10 lakh from HLL Lifecare Limited (HLL) is in full swing. This order will be completed in 40 days. Ordnance Factory Board has also developed special two-metre tents which can be used for medical emergency, screening, hospital triage and quarantine purposes. These are made up of waterproof fabric, mild steel and aluminium alloy. Supplies have already started. Manufacture of hand sanitiser is on war footing and more than 70,000 litres have already been supplied to different agencies.

[POWERGRID carrying out CSR activities to combat COVID-19 pandemic](#)

POWERGRID, a central PSU under Ministry of Power, has been ensuring uninterrupted 24x7 transmission of power and acting proactively by taking up humanitarian relief activities to aid those impacted by the pandemic in India. It has contributed Rs. 200 Crore to PM CARES Fund. Additionally, all employees of POWERGRID contributed one day salary to PM CARES Fund.



[Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Ministry takes multiple steps to help the nation fight Covid-19](#)

In a bid to help the nation fight the Covid-19 and help various stakeholders overcome the hardships, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has taken several steps. MSDE has sent contact details of 1,75,000 health sector professionals located in different states to the Chief Secretaries of the state, NSDC has appointed nodal officers in each state who are in contact with state administration for mobilizing the personnel based on requirement. About 5 lakh masks has been prepared by Jan Shikshan Sansthan.

[Strategies and Solutions employed by PCMC to counter the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

The Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) has initiated several innovative and important initiatives to counter the spread of the virus. PCMC has set up a War Room under the Pimpri Chinchwad Smart City Limited. The room has been set up to properly manage the COVID situation in PCMC and it uses tools like GIS mapping, data analysis, monitoring of quarantined households, etc. A helpline number has also been set up to encourage concerned citizens to directly reach out to the authorities.

[Village Panchayats undertake various measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 in the country](#)

Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India in close collaboration with State Governments has taken various initiatives. Close consultation and guidance of the State as well as District authorities is being maintained to ensure that lock down conditions are not violated and norms of social distancing are scrupulously followed to contain the spread of the disease.

[World Bank hails Tanzania for not closing over coronavirus.](#)

The World Bank Group has hailed Tanzania for not choosing a lockdown over COVID-19 pandemic, arguing that the move will enable its economy to remain robust as others face recession. In the report titled "Assessing the Economic Impact of COVID-19 and Policy Responses in Sub-Saharan Africa", the World Bank commended Tanzania as one of the best examples for its strategic approaches that considers the best of its political economy and well-being of the society Tanzania has so far registered 46 coronavirus cases, one of the lowest on the continent.

[South Africa's COVID-19 epidemic: Trend and Next Steps](#)

A brief report has been prepared by Chair, Ministerial Advisory Group on COVID-19 on South Africa's trend and next steps for COVID-19 epidemic.



[SA can't escape the worst of this epidemic': Prof Salim Abdool Karim](#)

Prominent epidemiologist Professor Salim Abdool Karim, who is advising South Africa Government's response to Covid-19, said that while SA had done well to flatten the curve of new infections, there was still a likely spike in cases coming.

Central Advisories and Notifications

[Lockdown Measures for containment of COVID-19 pandemic in the country to continue to remain in force up to May 3, 2020 ; Select additional activities to be operationalised by States / Union Territories to come in effect from 20 April 2020 except in the Containment Zones](#)

In pursuance to the announcement of extension of lockdown measures till May 3 2020, the Government of India has issued directions to all the Ministries/Departments of Government of India, State/Union Territory Governments and Authorities, that the lockdown measures stipulated in the Consolidated Guidelines of MHA, for containment of COVID-19 pandemic in the country, will continue to remain in force up to May 3, 2020.

These restrictions, which have been spelt out in the Consolidated Guidelines of MHA, would have to be enforced strictly by all Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and by State/Union Territory Governments and Authorities. The communication to States and UTs emphasizes that as per the orders issued by MHA under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the States/Union Territories cannot dilute restrictions imposed via the aforesaid guidelines.

State Advisories and Notifications

[Government of Telangana: Operational Guidelines on day-to-day management of Containment Zones](#)

The State Government in its memo has issued a detailed set of guidelines and “do’s and don’ts” and creating a mechanism in place whereby defined protocols for Containment Zones with the objective to define the likely influence zone from the house where a positive patient is there and undertake all necessary measures aimed at breaking the chain of likely transmission and thus preventing its spread to others.

[Government of Andhra Pradesh: Release of Rs 56.75 crores towards containment and surveillance of COVID-19](#)

The State Government has accorded administrative sanction for an amount of Rs.56.75 Crore (Rupees Fifty-Six Crore and Seventy-Five lakh only) to the Director of Public Health and Family Welfare, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada, towards containment and surveillance of COVID-19.



[Government of Andhra Pradesh: Standard Operating Procedures for Village level Maize/ Jowar/ Pulses/ Oilseeds procurement operations.](#)

The State Government in its orders issued revised consolidated guidelines for Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Maize, Jowar, Pulses, Oilseeds, etc in connection with village level procurement operations of Maize, Jowar, Pulses, Oilseeds, etc.

[Collector and District Magistrate Office, Gandhinagar: Extension of validity of Passes.](#)

Collector and District Magistrate Office, Gandhinagar has written to Police Superintendent informing of the extension of passes, issued to providers, sellers of essential goods and people associated with providing essential services up to 3 May 2020.

[Government of Madhya Pradesh: Process of issuance of e-passes.](#)

The Home Affairs department of Madhya Pradesh State Government has written to all Collectors and Police officials informing them of the process of issuing e-passes to essential services and good providers.

International Advisories and Notifications

[Embassy of India in Rome: Measures adopted by the Italian Government to tackle COVID-19 emergency](#)

A brief report has been prepared by Embassy of India in Italy on the measures adopted by the Italian Government for the revival of the Italian economy during and after the lock-down period.

[Notice on Suspension of Short-term Visas of Foreigner entering the Republic of Korea.](#)

The Government of the Republic of Korea has suspended all Short-Term Visas (for less than 90 days) issued to foreign nationals starting from April 13, 2020. All foreign holders of visa type would need to reapply for their visas at the Embassy. However, short term employment (C-4 type visa) and long-term visa (employment, investment, etc) holders are exempted.

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