



Confederation of Indian Industry

125 Years: 1895-2020

COVID 19

Updates, Notifications and Advisories

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News Update

Telephone conversation between Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and President of Indonesia

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi spoke on phone today with H.E. Joke Widodo, President of Indonesia. The two leaders exchanged thoughts about the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in the region and the world. The Indonesian President appreciated the facilitation provided by Government of India for supplies of pharmaceutical products to Indonesia. Prime Minister assured him that India would do its best to prevent disruption in supplies of medical products or the other commodities traded between the two countries. The leaders discussed issues related to their citizens present in each other's countries and agreed that their teams would remain in touch to ensure all possible facilitation in this regard. Prime Minister underlined the fact that Indonesia is an important maritime partner in India's extended neighbourhood and the strength of the bilateral relationship would help both countries in fighting the effects of the pandemic. He also conveyed greetings for the Holy Month of Ramadan to H.E. President Widodo and to the friendly people of Indonesia

Telephone conversation between Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Canada

Prime Minister spoke on phone today with H.E. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada. The two leaders discussed the prevailing global situation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. They agreed on the importance of global solidarity and coordination, the maintenance of supply chains, and collaborative research activities. Prime Minister thanked the Canadian Prime Minister for the assistance and support extended to the Indian citizens present in Canada, especially Indian students. Prime Minister Trudeau appreciated the support provided by Government of India for Canadian citizens in India. Prime Minister conveyed the assurance that India's productive capabilities in the pharmaceutical sector would remain available for assisting the citizens of the world, including those of Canada, to the best of India's abilities. The two leaders agreed that the partnership between India and Canada could contribute meaningfully to the global effort to



fight the pandemic, especially through collaboration in research and technology aimed at finding a vaccine or therapeutic solutions to COVID-19.

ADB approves \$1.5 billion loan to India to fight COVID-19

The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) today signed a \$1.5 billion loan that will support the government's response to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, focusing on immediate priorities such as disease containment and prevention, as well as social protection for the poor and economically vulnerable sections of the society, especially women and disadvantaged groups.

World should unite towards making Environment technology open source and available at affordable cost: Union Environment Minister

The eleventh session of Petersburg Climate Dialogue witnessed India along with 30 other countries deliberating over ways and means to tackle the challenge of reinvigorating economies and societies after COVID-19, while enhancing collective resilience and catalysing climate action while also supporting those most vulnerable. Representing India in the first virtual Petersburg Climate Dialogue, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Prakash Javadekar said that, Today, as the World is unitedly engaged in finding a vaccine for novel Coronavirus, likewise we should have Climate Technology as open source which must be available at affordable cost. Stressing on the issue of Climate finance, Shri Javadekar said the World now needs more. "We must plan for 1 trillion USD in grants to developing world immediately", advocated the Union Minister.

The country will be self-reliant by the end of May 2020 in producing indigenous rapid Test and RT-PCR diagnostic kits—Dr. Harsh Vardhan

Union Minister of Science & Technology, Health & Family Welfare and Earth Sciences, Dr Harsh Vardhan reviewed, through videoconferencing, the various initiatives undertaken by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and its Autonomous Institutes (AIs) and its Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) – BIRAC and BIBCOLD, to tackle the current COVID-19 crisis especially with respect to progress made in indigenous development of vaccine, Rapid Test and RT-PCR diagnostic Kits. He appealed to the scientists to speedily develop COVID-19 mitigation solutions.



Union HRD Minister interacts with Education Ministers and Education Secretaries of all States through video conference

Union HRD Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal along with Minister of State for HRD, Shri Sanjay Dhotre interacted with Education Ministers and Education Secretaries of all the States through video conferencing today. Education Ministers of 22 States and secretaries from 14 States and Union Territories attended the conference. While addressing the meeting Union Minister said that the current situation of COVID-19 is unfortunate, but it is time to act wisely and turn the situation into opportunity by doing new experiments to ensure safety and academic welfare of students.

COVID-19: Suppliers and Solutions Map, by ConnectAmericas of the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)

The Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), one of the principal partners of CII in the Latin American and Caribbean Region, through its ConnectAmericas business platform launched an interactive map that allows users to quickly locate and contact suppliers of goods and services from Latin America and the Caribbean and the rest of the world, who are offering solutions that are relevant to the fight against the pandemic of COVID-19.

MOS (PP) Dr Jitendra Singh lauds Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) for continuing its training programmes for IAS officers online without interruption in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh had a wide ranging discussion over Video Conferencing with the Director and Faculty of the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) on Covid-19 related issues and how they are being handled by the Academy. He was briefed on how SOPs have been formed for different aspects of the functioning of the Academy including training of IAS officer Trainees of Phase-I. The classes are being conducted online which are accessed by them in their respective rooms. Covid-19 related inputs have been given through various mechanisms including showing films, online discussion, assignments and structured inputs.

Agartala Smart City uses mobile kiosk for COVID-19 sample collection

Agartala Smart City has designed and handed over a Mobile COVID-19 sample collection kiosk to city's Chief Medical Officer (CMO). The kiosk ensures protection to the sample collecting doctor & prevents wastage of personal protection equipment (PPE). This initiative is a major step by Agartala in the fight against Covid-19.

Tunisian Government launches online platform to help foreigners in financial fragile situation

The Ministry of Human Rights, Relations with Constitutional Bodies and Civil Society announced the launch of an online platform on www.aide-covid19.tn to help foreigners stranded in Tunisia in these times of pandemic. The web site also aims to help in the fight against the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic and to maintain links with voluntary initiatives launched by civil society.

Record fertilizer sales during lockdown period

Amid National level Covid-19 lockdown, Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has had a record sale of Fertilizers to farmer community. Despite lot of movement restrictions due to National level COVID-19 lockdown, with the concerted efforts of Department of Fertilizers, Railways, States and Ports, production and supply of fertilizers in the country is going on without hindrance. This is in line with the commitment made by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers to ensure availability of fertilizers to farmers for the upcoming Kharif season.

ASEAN nations ramp up measures to help SMEs

Brunei, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Vietnam have enforced either a partial or total lockdown to contain the outbreak. With shopping malls and most public facilities closed, and customers forced to stay at home to avoid a spike in infections that could overwhelm healthcare systems, SMEs are barely coping. SMEs account for a huge percentage of each country's GDP and are among the biggest employers in Southeast Asia. SMEs also contribute more than 40 percent of the gross value added and 10 to 30 percent of ASEAN's export revenues. Most SMEs are also involved in the retail, trade and services sectors—businesses that have suffered the most from the lockdown. ASEAN governments have recognized the predicament that businesses face and have rolled out fiscal stimulus packages that include subsidies for SMEs.

Global COVID-19 cases top 3 million : Johns Hopkins University

Global confirmed COVID-19 cases topped 3 million on Monday, reaching 3,002,303 as of 1 p.m. (1700 GMT), according to the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University. The United States, which remains the hardest hit followed by Spain and Italy Other countries with over



100,000 cases included France, Germany, the United Kingdom and Turkey, the CSSE data showed.

[WHO appeals for aggressive measures as European nations see silver linings in combating COVID-19](#)

As more European nations are pondering next steps to ease restriction amid encouraging news, the World Health Organization (WHO) warned on Monday that the novel coronavirus remains "extremely dangerous", stressing the necessity for aggressive measures to peg back the pandemic. WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus urged the European countries to find, isolate, test and treat all cases of COVID-19 while easing their containment measures. "As lock-downs in Europe ease with declining numbers of new cases, we continue to urge countries to find, isolate, test and treat all cases of COVID-19 and trace every contact, to ensure these declining trends continue," the WHO chief said at a virtual press conference.

[UK government announces new loan scheme for small businesses amid coronavirus crisis](#)

The British government announced a new fast-track finance scheme providing loans with a 100 percent government-backed guarantee for small businesses hit by the novel coronavirus outbreak. Under the new loan scheme, announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak, small businesses can apply for Bounce Back Loans up to a maximum of 50,000 pounds (about 62,073 U.S. dollars), or 25 percent of turnover, with the government paying the interest for the first 12 months. Designed to ensure that small firms which need vital cash injections to keep operating can get finance in a matter of days, the loans will be easy to apply for through a short, standardized online application since Monday next week. The move came as British business group the Institute of Directors (IoD) urged the government to "improve and widen" the scope of coronavirus finance for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

[New regulations for domestic service sector](#)

Shanghai has issued new regulations for the domestic service industry to guarantee the legal rights of both customers and employees. A comprehensive management platform for domestic services was brought online for trial run. It has already collected basic information of over 270,000 workers and 409 institutions offering services. The platform provides basic information and credit records of companies and employees in the industry which is easily accessible by the public, who can submit their reviews of companies or practitioners. Authorities can use the platform to enhance monitoring and regulations with information about staff, supply and demand, service contracts, as well as direct feedback from customers. This would come in force on May 1.

Central Advisories and Notifications

Jal Shakti Abhiyan issues Advisory on gearing up for monsoon

A Joint Advisory has been issued from the Department of Rural Development, Dept. of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Dept. of Land Resources & Dept of Drinking Water & Sanitation to all the Chief Secretaries of all States/ UTs, in context with the impending monsoon this year and the preparations to be done for water conservation and recharge which is of utmost importance for our country. 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan'—is all set to combat the present health crisis and give a boost to the rural economy through its various components. This year owing to the COVID-19 emergency, and availability of large labour force in rural areas, the Abhiyan has started gearing up for the impending monsoon.

State Advisories and Notifications

Government of Telangana: Permission for procurement of additional quantity of 1,40,975 M.Ts. under State Pool ; Permission to obtain the credit facility of Rs.798.09 crores by the Telangana State MARKFED

The State Government, in the interest of farmers to avoid distress sale, the Government has decided to procure the Bengal gram under State pool. Accordingly the TS MARKFED has been permitted to procure the Bengal gram quantity of 1,40,975 M.Ts. under State pool and the State Government will reimburse the losses if any incurred in the above procurement to the Nodal Agency. Government has also accorded permission to obtain the credit facility of Rs.798.09 crores by the Telangana State MARKFED from any Nationalised Banks / Government Financial Institutions for procurement of Bengal gram under MSP during Yasangi (Rabi) 2019-20 subject to payment of 2% Guarantee Commission.

Government of Telangana: Permission for procurement of additional quantity of 4,983 M.Ts. under State Pool - Providing Government guarantee for an amount of Rs. 32.42 Crores to TS MARKFED

The State Government in the interest of farmers to avoid distress sale, has decided to procure the Sunflower seed under State pool. Accordingly, the TS MARKFED has been permitted to procure the Sunflower seed quantity of 4,983 M.Ts. under State pool and the State Government will reimburse the losses if any incurred in the above procurement to the Nodal Agency. The State Government has also accorded permission to obtain the credit facility of Rs.32.42 crores by



the Telangana State MARKFED from any Nationalised Banks / Government Financial Institutions for procurement of Sunflower seed under MSP during Yasangi (Rabi) 2019-20 subject to payment of 2% Guarantee Commission.

Government of Telangana: Providing Government guarantee for an amount of Rs.26.73 Crores to TS MARKFED, Hyderabad to obtain the credit facility from any Nationalised Banks / Government Financial Institutions by the TS MARKFED.

The State Government has accorded permission to obtain the credit facility of Rs.26.73 crores by the Telangana State MARKFED from any Nationalised Banks / Government Financial Institutions for procurement of Jowar (Hybrid) under MSP during Yasangi (Rabi) 2019-20 subject to payment of 2% Guarantee Commission.

Government of Karnataka: Operating of Industries / Industrial Establishments in COVID-19 unaffected Districts:

In order to ease the starting of industries, which are eligible, the Government has advised to share a self-declaration of adhering to SOP to the concerned District Industries Centre before starting the Unit. The State Government has shared the format of the self-declaration format in its circular.

Government of Andhra Pradesh: Enlisting of Deputy Collectors to work on COVID-19 epidemic

The State Government has issued orders sharing details of the Deputy collectors enlisted ed for working on COVID-19 epidemic to assist District Collectors.

Government of Punjab: Notification of entry points on major roads, closure of entry points on the link roads and screening of person coming to State from other States.

With regards to movement of persons from other States to Punjab State and to other States from Punjab, the State Government has decided to follow few measures to control spread of COVID-19. The Deputy Commissioners will have to notify the entry points into the state only on Major Roads, i.e., National Highway/State Highway/Major District Roads and seal all other entry points on the link roads with all the neighbouring states. Entry into the State will only be allowed from the notified entry points.

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