



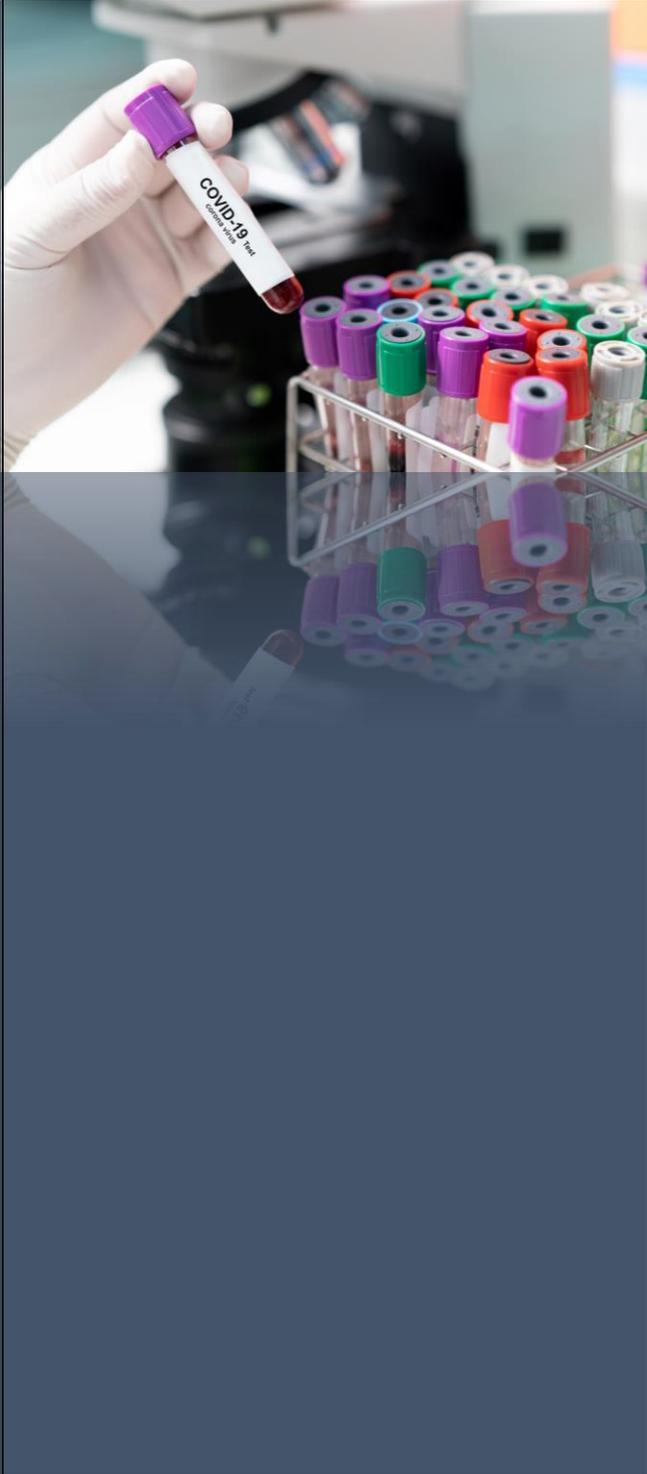
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# COVID 19

## Updates, Notifications and Advisories

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

AN18, 04 April 2020



### [Prime Minister Modi speaks with Prime Minister of Brazil](#)

Shri Narendra Modi had a telephonic conversation with H.E. Jair Messias Bolsonaro, President of Brazil. The two leaders discussed the global situation in the wake of the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. The two leaders stressed the significance of close cooperation between India and Brazil, bilaterally as well as in the multilateral institutional framework, to mitigate the grave crises caused by COVID-19. They agreed on the need to forge a new human-centric concept of globalisation for the post-COVID world. The Prime Minister assured all possible support to Brazil President in this difficult hour. They agreed that their officials would remain in regular touch with respect to the COVID-19 situation and its emerging challenges.

### [Prime Minister Modi speaks with the President of United States of America, Donald Trump](#)

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had a telephonic conversation today with H.E. Donald Trump, President of United States of America. The two leaders exchanged views on the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the global wellbeing and economy. Stressing the special relationship between the two countries, the Prime Minister reiterated India's solidarity with the USA in overcoming this global crisis together.



The two leaders agreed to deploy the full strength of the India – US partnership to resolutely and effectively combat COVID-19. The Prime Minister and the US President exchanged notes on the respective steps taken in each country for mitigating the health and economic impacts of the pandemic. The two leaders also touched upon the significance of practices such as Yoga and Ayurveda (traditional Indian herbal medicine practice) for ensuring physical and mental well-being in these difficult times.

### **Domestic cargo India's fight against Covid-19**

The Ministry of Civil Aviation is undertaking continuous efforts at policy level and ground level to add substantially in the country's fight against Covid-19. The cargo delivered to various parts of the country includes COVID-19 related reagents, enzymes, medical equipment, testing kits & PPE, masks, gloves & other accessories of HLL & cargo requisitioned by State/UT Governments and postal packets.

### **PM chairs meeting of Empowered Groups - Reviews countrywide preparedness on COVID-19 response**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired a joint meeting of the Empowered Groups constituted for planning and ensuring implementation of COVID-19 response activities in the country. In a series of tweets, PM wrote that he reviewed countrywide preparedness regarding availability of hospitals, proper isolation and quarantine facilities as well as disease surveillance, testing and critical care training and also directed the concerned groups and officials to ensure sufficient production, procurement and availability of all essential medical equipment such as PPEs, masks, gloves and ventilators.

### **DST funded start-up develops chemical free silver-based disinfectant to fight COVID 19 pandemic**

An Indian patent has been filed for the process of making of colloidal silver, and a test license for making hand sanitizers and disinfectants has been granted. Weinnovate Biosolutions, a Pune based start-up supported jointly by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Department of Biotechnology



(DBT), has come up with a non-alcoholic aqueous-based Colloidal Silver solution uniquely made from its NanoAgCide technology for disinfecting hands and environmental surfaces. This liquid is non-inflammable and free of hazardous chemicals and can be an effective sanitizer to prevent the spread of the infection through contact.

### **IIT Kanpur researchers to design a cost-effective virucidal coating of surgical masks for preventive measures against COVID-19**

Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), a statutory body under Department of Science and Technology, is supporting a research by a team of scientists from IIT Kanpur for developing a protective coating that would greatly help in making medicated masks and medical wear (PPE) for fighting COVID-19.

### **Indian Railways ensures supply chain fully functional for power, transport and key infrastructure sectors during the COVID-19 lockdown**

Indian Railways has been fulfilling its commitment to ensure availability of important raw material and fuel through its freight services to meet the requirements of the power transport and key infrastructure sectors during the nationwide lock down due to COVID-19. During the situation of lockdown, Indian Railways staff deployed at various god sheds, stations and control offices continued working with full devotion to ensure that the supply of essential items for these critical sectors does not gets affected.

### **Ministry of Tourism holds virtual conference with the Industry associations of Tourism and Hospitality sector**

The Ministry of Tourism held a virtual conference with the Industry associations of Tourism and Hospitality sector on Friday. The VC was led by the Secretary Tourism, Shri Yogendra Tripathi along with senior officials of the Ministry. The industry put forth several ideas and suggestions for tiding over the crisis created by COVID-19 in the sector of tourism and hospitality. The Ministry on its part shared the concerns and assured the associations that the government was very much with them in this grim hour and that the Ministry would work towards the suggestions put forth.



### [NIF invite innovative citizens to participate in Challenge COVID-19 Competition \(C3\)](#)

At a time when the country is facing a great crisis due to the Corona pandemic, National Innovation Foundation – India (NIF), an autonomous institute under the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India has come up with a call inviting innovative citizens to participate in its Challenge Covid-19 Competition (C3)

### [Southern Naval Command Designs Training Capsule for Non-Medical Personnel](#)

The COVID core working group of Southern Naval Command has prepared a Training Capsule for Battlefield Nursing Assistant (BFNA) to train non-medical personnel who will work as force multipliers in times of emergencies. The training is actively being carried out at all units of Southern Naval Command as an attempt to train non-medical personnel who will work as force multipliers in times of emergencies. A total number of 333 personnel have been trained till date in Southern Naval Command.

### [CORONAVIRUS- RESEARCH TRACKER : Update as on 04 April 2020](#)

- **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee has developed a low-cost 3D printed face shield:**

The mask will protect medical practitioners from coronavirus infection while they are busy treating patients. The 3D printed frame consists of a transparent sheet attached to it to protect the face which could be replaced.

- **IIT alumni develops a drone for thermal screening:**

Three alumni of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) have developed a drone equipped with infrared camera which can help in thermal screening of groups without human intervention and identify likely COVID-19 infected persons at an early stage once the lockdown is lifted.



- **IIT Kharagpur and AIIMS alumni develops a device “Airlens Minus Corona”:**

This will travel on streets to sterilize the city. It will go to hospitals, bus stops, railway stations, shopping malls and other public places to sterilize the surfaces which may cause the spread of the coronavirus. The power lies in electrifying water droplets to kill coronavirus. The duo invents a new way to kill coronavirus using charged/ionized water droplets. Water droplets can be ionized using Corona Discharge.

- **CAWACH Centre:**

Department of Science & Technology, Government of India in a rapid response to combat COVID-19 global pandemic approved setting up of a Centre for Augmenting WAR with COVID-19 Health Crisis (CAWACH) at a total cost of Rs 56 Cr to scout, evaluate and support the innovations and start-ups that address COVID-19 challenges. The Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE), a technology business incubator at IIT Bombay supported by DST has been identified as the Implementing Agency of the CAWACH.

- **DRDO develops a bio-suit for Covid:**

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed a bio-suit to keep them safe. Scientists at various DRDO laboratories have applied their technical know-how and expertise in textile, coating and nanotechnology to develop the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) having a specific type of fabric with coating.

- **DRDO face masks:**

DRDO is also manufacturing five-layered N 99 face masks. These masks are being prepared at the Gwalior-based Defence Research and Development Establishment. As of now, it is manufacturing around 200K masks every week. Further, DRDO has also come up with a reusable face shield to protect medical professionals from getting infected to coronavirus. These masks are produced at an in-house 3D printing facility used to make these masks and shields.



- **GlaxoSmithKline teams up with Xiamen Innovax Biotech to evaluate a vaccine against the novel coronavirus behind the COVID-19 pandemic**

The agreement gives Innovax access to a GSK adjuvant to enhance the immune response triggered by its recombinant protein-based vaccine. GSK teamed up with Innovax last year to develop a human papillomavirus vaccine, tapping into the work of the Chinese biotech to drive its search for a successor to Cervarix.

- **FDA is launching a new national effort to bring blood-related therapies for COVID-19:**

FDA is launching a new national effort to bring blood-related therapies for COVID-19 to market as fast as possible taking the lead on a national effort to facilitate the development of, and access to, two investigational therapies derived from human blood. These are called convalescent plasma and hyperimmune globulin and are antibody-rich blood products made from blood donated by people who have recovered from the virus. The products can be administered to individuals diagnosed with COVID-19. There are some limited data to suggest that convalescent plasma and hyperimmune globulin may have benefit in the COVID-19 illness. This is why evaluation of these therapies in the context of a clinical trial and expanded access program is so important.

- **COVID-19 Clinical Research Coalition**

A group of scientists, physicians, funders, and policy makers from over 70 institutions from over 30 countries have launched an international coalition to respond to COVID-19 in resource-poor settings. The COVID-19 Clinical Research Coalition aims to accelerate desperately needed COVID-19 research in those areas where the virus could wreak havoc on already-fragile health systems and cause the greatest health impact on vulnerable populations.

### **[CSIR-IMTECH takes up sample testing for Covid-19](#)**

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Institute of Microbial Technology (CSIRIMTECH)



has stepped up to take up Covid-19 sample testing. This is in line with the directives issued by the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India and the advisory issued by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to operationalise Covid-19 testing by laboratories under CSIR and other labs affiliated to Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Department of Atomic Energy (DAE). "The initiative of ICMR to involve all government-accredited labs is a welcome step and will be a game changer in testing of Covid-19 samples.

### **Food Delivery Booster Package to Support F&B Businesses with Delivery Orders**

Enterprise Singapore (ESG) has rolled out the Food Delivery Booster Package to support F&B businesses to transform their business models and meet the needs of digitally-connected consumers. The package will help to reduce the business costs of selling on three key food delivery platforms – Deliveroo, foodpanda and GrabFood. The package supports both new entrants and those that are already operating on these three platforms. The Food Delivery Booster Package comes on the back of the evolving COVID-19 situation.

### **DRDO develops sanitisation enclosures and face shields to save primarily healthcare professionals from COVID-19**

Vehicle Research Development Establishment (VRDE), Ahmednagar, a DRDO Laboratory has designed full body disinfection chamber called as PSE. This walk-through enclosure is designed for personnel decontamination, one person at a time. This is a portable system equipped with sanitiser and soap dispenser.

### **Tata Group opens Taj Hotels to doctors, nurses on COVID-19 duty, earns plaudits online**

The generous move comes after reports of medical professionals and other frontline workers facing social stigma in many cities surfaced. Five Taj Hotels under the Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL) in Maharashtra have offered rooms to accommodate doctors and nurses who are treating patients infected with the novel



corona virus. Two other properties — one in Goa and in Uttar Pradesh too have done the same.

### **European Commission encourages and facilitates cross-border treatment of patients and deployment of medical staff**

The coronavirus pandemic is putting healthcare systems across the EU under unprecedented and increasing pressure. To support and encourage cross-border healthcare cooperation between national, regional and local authorities, the Commission has today issued practical guidance to Member States. Cooperation across borders can help ease the pressure on overburdened hospitals by transferring patients suffering from coronavirus for treatment in Member States where hospital places are available. The Commission will also support Member States or non-governmental organisations to send qualified teams of medical personnel to help across borders.

### **Millions of Jobs at Stake in S-East Asia as Economic Activities stop abruptly**

Millions of jobs could be lost in South-east Asia as economies grind to a halt amid efforts to contain the coronavirus pandemic, wreaking havoc in countries with weak social protection systems. As per UN body, impact will be substantial with labour intensive sectors hit hard by virus.

## **Central Advisories and Notifications**

### **Secretary, Ministry of Human Resources writes to Educational bodies on Arogya Setu APP, General Measures to enhance body's natural defence system**

Mr Amit Khare, Secretary, Ministry of Human Resources and Development has written to heads of Educational bodies regarding Arogya Setu APP and General Measures to enhance body's natural defence system



### **Enhanced lockdown relaxation for Agriculture- Farming Sector**

The Union Government of India has granted a slew of exemptions and relaxations for Agriculture and Allied Sectors so as to ensure that farmers do not suffer from any adverse fall out. Shops of Agriculture machinery, spare parts and repair, trucks repair shops on highways have been exempted.

### **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India has come out with Containment Plan for Large Outbreaks for COVID-19**

In view of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India has come out with containment Plan for large outbreaks. It has come with scenario-based approach for the following possible scenarios: Travel related case reported in India; local transmission of COVID-29, large outbreaks amenable to containment, Widespread community transmission and India becoming endemic for COVID-19

### **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Advisory and Manual on Homemade Protective cover**

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India has given an advisory on the homemade Protective cover and its use by individuals.

### **Directorate General of CGHS, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare notifies Extension of Validity of CGHS Card in view of the Corona Virus Infection**

The Directorate General of CGHS, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has directed that the validity of CGHS Cards expiring on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 may be extended in respect of CGHS pensioner beneficiaries contributing on Annual basis and Central Government serving employees superannuating on 31 March 2020.



## **State Advisories and Notifications**

### **Government of Andhra Pradesh: Declaring Health Care and Medical facilities as Essential Services for a period of six months for refusal to work in/for all Government and Private Health and Medical Facilities under Essential Services Maintenance Act,1971**

The State Government in its notification has declared Health Care and Medical facilities as essential services for a period of six months and said that it is necessary and expedient in the public interest to prohibit refusal to work in the specified Essential services

### **Government of Assam: Notification on constitution of committee for monitoring fake news.**

The State Government has notified constituting a committee for monitoring and checking of fake news of the Media.

### **Government of Andhra Pradesh: Prevention, Control and Management in the Rural Areas- Community Surveillance Protocol**

The State Government has issued orders on constitution of a surveillance system by Public Health System to supervise, monitor, report and action to reinforce the management effectiveness of COVID-19 response in the rural areas of the State.

### **Ministry of Home Affairs issues order to make domiciles of Jammu and Kashmir eligible for all Government posts in the Union Territory**

Union Ministry for Home Affairs (MHA) had issued an order on 31.03.2020 for adaptation and modification of State Laws specific to the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir, to further facilitate the application of Central Laws to the newly formed Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. MHA has further issued an order to make domiciles of Jammu and Kashmir eligible for all Government posts in the Union Territory.



### **Government of Punjab: Exemption to Banks and ATMs**

Office of the District Magistrate, Government of Punjab in its orders have exempted Banks and ATMs from operating and has made further exemptions on their workings.

### **Government of Sikkim issues Farmers Helpline Numbers**

With the view to extend all supports to Farmers during the lockdown period, the Agriculture and Horticulture Department, Government of Sikkim notified district-wise Farmers Helpline Numbers.

### **The West Bengal Small Industries Development Corporation Limited Issues Short Tender Notice on “Emergency Procurement of Hand Sanitizers”**

The West Bengal Small Industries Development Corporation Ltd have invited quotations from the manufacturers / bonafide suppliers for procurement of bulk quantity of Hand Sanitizers for subsequent supply to different Government offices, Health Institutions, etc in the State.

### **Government of West Bengal advisory on Setting up of isolation facility**

The State Government has issued advisory that all suspect cases for COVID-19 to be kept in the containment /buffer zones in isolation ward till a diagnosis is made. Mingling with other general patients must be avoided to protect the health of others. Persons tested positive for COVID-19 will be shifted to designated COVID Hospital.

### **Government of West Bengal issues list of hospitals set up for COVID-19 patients**

The Health and Family Welfare Department, Government of West Bengal issues list of hospitals set up for COVID-19 patients



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## **Government of West Bengal notification on Hospitals in Kolkata for treatment of COVID-19 patients**

For the treatment of Covid19-related cases, the State Government has issued list of Government & Private hospitals in Kolkata.

### **International Advisories and Notifications**

## **COVID-19: Disinfection drive extended to 24 hours in Dubai**

Strict measures have been put in place to restrict movement in Dubai to curb spread of coronavirus. The measures will be effective for a period of two weeks, subject to renewal. Individuals will not be allowed to leave the house, except for essential purposes or if they are working in vital sectors exempted from the restrictions. All people leaving home should wear a mask, gloves and ensure they keep a safe distance from others

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

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