



Confederation of Indian Industry  
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# COVID 19

## Updates, Notifications and Advisories

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AN19, 05 April 2020



### [MoFPI continues to engage with concerned departments to resolve issues of food processing industry: Harsimrat Kaur Badal](#)

Ministry of Food Processing Industries continues to engage with concerned departments to resolve issues raised by the industry. Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries stated this in the 2nd video conference with major industry associations to discuss suggestions on interventions required by the government for development of Food Processing sector.

### [Empowered Group chaired by CEO NITI Aayog, constituted by Government of India](#)

Empowered Group number 6 which has been constituted to address the issues pertaining to identification of problems, effective solutions and formulation of plans with three groups of stakeholders namely International Organisations (IOs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) & and Industry associations. Six meetings have been conducted between 30 March and 3 April with industry associations, IOs, and CSOs where discussions have been held on their contribution to the response, plans for the coming weeks, and their expectations from the government.



### **Defence PSUs, OFB pitch in to fight against COVID- 19**

Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) and Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) of Ministry of Defence (MoD) have pitched in to shore up the national fight against COVID-19. The OFB has planned for 280 isolation beds across 10 hospitals spread over six states in the country. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) Bengaluru has isolation ward facility with three beds in Intensive Care Unit and 30 beds in wards. The OFB has manufactured and dispatched 50 specialised tents for COVID-19 patients to Government of Arunachal Pradesh at a short notice. Development and production of hand sanitiser as per WHO standards have been undertaken in the factories of OFB.

### **Ministry of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises : MSME Technology Centres Contributing in a Big Way in Fight Against COVID19**

Eighteen operational Technology centres autonomous bodies under Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), are also playing their role and contributing in the fight with COVID19. These include Central Footwear Training Institute, MSME Technology Centre, Hyderabad, Central Tool Room and Training Centre (CTTC), MSME Technology Centre, Kannauj, Institute for Design of Electrical Measuring Instruments (IDEMI) along with many others.

### **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare issues update on involvement of healthcare professionals and other bodies for COVID-19**

In order to address the requirements of containment and management of COVID-19 in the country, various levels of health professionals including doctors, nursing professionals, allied healthcare professionals and others are available. As many as 9.70 lakh ASHAs, one lakh AYUSH professionals, NCC Cadets, ex- Servicemen, Red Cross/NSS/ NYK volunteers, employees from gram panchayats and Urban Local Body employees, Civil Society Organisations may be involved as required.

### **Mask production initiated in wake of COVID-19 Pandemic under NRLM**

In response to COVID-19, face mask production has been initiated by Self Help Groups (SHGs) members in 24 States covering 399 Districts of the country under the Ministry of Rural Development's National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM).



### **Ministry of Civil Aviation : Lifeline UDAN flights transport 161 tons of cargo across the country**

Under Lifeline UDAN, 116 flights have been operated by Air India, Alliance Air, IAF, Pawan Hans and private carriers. 79 of these flights have been operated by Air India and Alliance Air. Cargo transported till date is around 161 tons. On the international front, the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Air India have worked closely with China to establish a cargo air-bridge between the two countries for transfer of critical medical supplies. The first cargo flight between India and China was operated by Air India on 4 April 2020, carrying 21 tons of critical medical supplies from China

### **EPFO Issues Revised Instructions to Facilitate PF Members to Rectify their Birth Records**

In a move to extend the availability and reach of online services in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, EPFO has issued revised instructions to its field offices to facilitate PF members to rectify their date of birth in EPFO records, thus ensuring that their UAN is KYC compliant. EPFO has instructed field offices to expedite disposal of online requests, enabling PF members in financial distress, to apply online for availing non-refundable advance from their PF accumulations to tide over the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Japan won't hesitate to declare Emergency If needed: Nishimura**

Japan's Economy Minister Yasutoshi Nishimura has said that Japan will not hesitate to declare a state of emergency over the coronavirus pandemic if there is any sign of an explosive spike in infections. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has come under increasing pressure to declare a state of emergency to contain the spread of Covid 19. Tokyo reported more than 110 new coronavirus emergencies to contain the spread of Covid-19.



### **Coronavirus risks over 2 lakh private jobs at airports; private airport body seeks intervention**

The COVID-19 unleashed headwinds which have deeply impacted the airline and hospitality sector, now pose a major risk to the job security of over 2,00,000 workforce employed with the country's private airport operators. Accordingly, the Association of Private Airport Operators (APAO) has urged the Centre to come out with an economic relief package not only to stop downsizing but also to maintain the key infrastructure assets that the sector maintains.

### **Many companies take 90-day no-layoff pledge**

Several global companies, most with large presence in India, have assured employees that there will be no or insignificant layoffs while the Covid-19 outbreak and lockdown continue. Some have taken a 90-day no-layoff pledge. Some have put a stop to all layoffs for this year. Some are protecting jobs by reducing fresh hiring. Among them are SAP, Morgan Stanley, Salesforce, PayPal, Citigroup, JP Morgan, Bank of America and Booz Allen Hamilton.

### **Coronavirus: Mahindra Opens Its Kitchens; Supplies Over 50,000 Meals in A Week**

Mahindra has opened its kitchens in 10 locations across India and has supplied 50,000 meals, and 10,000 ration packets in a week. Also, Mahindra is offering its kitchen infrastructure to be used by others who might want to prepare meals for the needy.

### **CORONAVIRUS- RESEARCH TRACKER : Update as on 05 April 2020:**

- Cellex becomes first company to land FDA Emergency Use Authorization for COVID-19 serology testing.
- Two candidate vaccines for COVID-19 have entered the first phase of human clinical trials and another 60 candidate vaccines are in pre-clinical studies, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has confirmed. The vaccine candidate jointly developed by CanSino Biological Inc and Beijing Institute of Biotechnology uses the non-replicating viral vector as the platform, same



as the non-corona candidates like Ebola, to develop a vaccine with a 'Adenovirus Type 5' candidate.

- Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) Kanpur is working on cost- efficient special antiviral coating masks, which may replace N95 masks whose price shot up to Rs 500 in recent days. By next 2-3 days, IIT Kanpur will start manufacturing of the masks." The N95 masks filters at least 95% of airborne particles.
- IIT Delhi has invited supercomputer-based research proposals to tackle Covid-19 from the government and private academic institutions as well as private companies in association with an academic partner from all over the country. Researchers will be able to use IIT Delhi's supercomputer resource PADUM for Covid-19 research.

### **Central Advisories and Notifications**

#### **Indian Council of Medical Research issues Advisory to start rapid antibody-based blood test for COVID-19**

The Indian Council of Medical Research, Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India has issued an advisory to start rapid antibody-based blood test for COVID-19, in clusters (with containment zones). Reports of the tests may be entered by the respective facilities into the ICMR portal similar to results of real-time RT PCR tests for COVID-19.

#### **'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package: Insurance Scheme for Health Workers Fighting COVID-I9.**

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has addressed to all States & Union Territories and the Heads of all the Associations of Doctors, Healthcare providers for disseminating information regarding the 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package -Insurance Scheme for Health Workers Fighting COVID-I9.



### **India Bans Exports of Hydroxychloroquine**

India banned all exports of hydroxychloroquine, a malaria drug that President Donald Trump has repeatedly touted as a “game changer” in the fight against Covid-19. Exports of the drug and its formulations are prohibited “without any exceptions” and with immediate effect, India’s Directorate General of Foreign Trade said in an April 4 order on its website. The trade regulator had last month restricted overseas shipments of the drug, allowing only limited exceptions such as on humanitarian grounds and for meeting prior commitments.

## **State Advisories and Notifications**

### **Gujarat State Home Department orders strict execution of lockdown in relation to Corona COVID-19**

The Ahmedabad Police Commissionerate, in pursuance of the orders of Ministry of Home Affairs, has ordered strict execution of lockdown prohibiting all movement, except for the purpose of performing essential services.

### **Surat Municipal Corporation orders Sanitization of ATMs**

Surat Municipal Corporation has issued an order stating that during the time of global epidemic of corona virus, all banks should compulsorily sanitize ATM machine after use. If the banks fail to do so then they may be fined from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 1,00,000/- under epidemic disaster act 189.

## **International Advisories and Notifications**

### **COVID-19: Heng Swee Keat to announce third round of support measures in new 'Solidarity Budget'**

A third round of support measures will be announced by Finance Minister Heng Swee Keat when Parliament sits on Monday (Apr 6) to help tide businesses, workers and households through the COVID-19 outbreak. This comes as Singapore closes schools and most workplaces for a month.

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



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