



Confederation of Indian Industry

125 Years: 1895-2020

COVID 19

Updates, Notifications and Advisories

AN62, 22 May2020

<http://www.ciicovid19update.in>

News Update

Reserve Bank of India announces nine additional measures to strengthen the Economy; Cuts interest rates

Shri Shaktikanta Das, Governor of Reserve Bank of India announced a set of nine measures to smoothen the flow of finance and preserve financial stability in the turbulent and uncertain times ushered in by the COVID-19 pandemic. These include Repo rate reduction by 40 basis points; Refinance Facility to SIDBI for further 90 days; Relaxation of Rules for Foreign Portfolio Investment under Voluntary Retention Route; Exporters Bank Loans for Higher Period; Loan facility to EXIM Bank; Time extension for Importers to Pay for Imports; Extension of Regulatory Measures by another three Months; Provision to convert Interest on Working Capital into Interest Term Loan; Increase of Group Exposure Limit to Increase Fund Flow to Corporate.

Dr. Harsh Vardhan elected as Chair of Executive Board of World Health Organization (WHO)

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Harsh Vardhan was elected as Chair of the Executive Board of World Health Organization for the year 2020-21. Dr Harsh Vardhan paid tribute to the lakhs of people who have lost their lives due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The Minister encouraged a standing ovation for all frontline health workers and other COVID warriors and lauded their dignity, determination and dedication.

Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad asks India Post to work towards realizing PM's vision of Atma Nirbhar Bharat

Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union Minister of Communications, Law, Justice and Electronics and IT instructed the Chief Postmaster Generals and senior officers of India Post to work to realise the vision of the Prime Minister for an Atma Nirbhar Bharat. The Union Minister reviewed the activities and efforts of Department of Post during Covid-19 crisis through a video conference. India Post has delivered over 2000 tonnes of medicines and medical equipment across the country till date.



Ministry of Home Affairs relaxes visa and travel restrictions imposed due to COVID -19. Permits certain categories of OCI cardholders stranded abroad, to come back to India

Ministry of Home Affairs relaxed Visa and travel restrictions imposed due to COVID -19 and permitted Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholders stranded abroad to come back. These include minor children born to Indian nationals abroad and holding OCI cards; OCI cardholders who need to come to India on account of family emergencies like death in family; Wedded couples where one spouse is an OCI cardholder and the other is an Indian national and they have permanent residence in India; University students who are OCI cardholders, not legally minors, but whose parents are Indian citizens living in India.

Embassy of India in Japan invites Japanese Firms to invest in Indian Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices industry

A high level business webinar was organized by the Embassy of India, Tokyo in partnership with the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India on the challenges and emerging opportunities in the medical devices and API sectors. Business and trade collaboration between India and Japan in the post COVID-19 scenario was discussed.

DrJitendra Singh states that Post-COVID India will emerge more confident and gain esteem in the world arena

Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh, Ministry of State for Prime Minister's Office stated in an interview that Post-COVID India will emerge more confident and gain esteem in the world arena, despite the apprehensions and anticipations at this hour of crisis. He displayed confidence that the world would look up to India and seek to engage with the country as a safe destination for business and trade. The minister also observed that early lockdown announcements helped India to train itself and battle the COVID- 19 pandemic.

Indian Railways modifies terms and conditions of booking of tickets for 15 pairs of Special Trains

Indian Railways is presently running fifteen pairs of special trains. For the convenience of the passengers, it has decided to revise certain terms and conditions of these trains. The advance reservation period (ARP) will be increased from 7 days to 30 days with effect from train booking date 24th May 2020, for trains with starting date of 31st May 2020, and continue without any provision for Tatkal booking.



The Sweden Government has decided to temporarily allow caregivers on the national tariff to receive compensation for digital healthcare contacts

The Government has decided to temporarily allow caregivers on the national tariff to receive compensation for digital healthcare contacts. The purpose is to reduce the number of unnecessary physical care visits, thereby reducing the risk of spreading COVID-19.

The Government of Latvia has decided to ease restriction amidst COVID -19 on face-to-face activities in education, sports and amateur arts

The activities such as face-to-face activities in education, sports and amateur arts will be eased. The Education and Science Ministry and the Culture Ministry will work out a detailed regulation, which will include specific requirements for activities in education, sports and amateur arts.

Central Advisories and Notifications

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has issued revised advisory on the use of Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) as prophylaxis for COVID-19 infection

As per the advisory the Joint Monitoring Group and National Task Force (NTF) have now recommended the prophylactic use of HCQ in the following categories all asymptomatic healthcare workers involved in containment and treatment of COVID-19 and asymptomatic healthcare workers working in non-COVID hospitals/non-COVID areas of COVID hospitals/blocks, asymptomatic frontline workers, such as surveillance workers deployed in containment zones and paramilitary/police personnel involved in COVID-19 related activities, asymptomatic household contacts of laboratory confirmed cases. The drug is not recommended for prophylaxis in children under 15 years of age and in pregnancy and lactation.

State Advisories and Notifications

Government of Andhra Pradesh has issued an order regarding payment of full salaries salaries/wages/remuneration/honorarium from the month of May 2020

As per the order all the employees will be paid full salary from the month of May 2020. Separate orders will be issued, based upon the improvement in the flow of revenue to the State Exchequer, regarding payment of the



salaries/pensions already deferred and for the recoveries/deductions pertaining to the months of March and April & contribution to the CM Relief Fund by the employees.

Government of Tamil Nadu has issued an order allowing auto and cycle rickshaws to ply with certain conditions

As per the order issued the rickshaw and cycle rickshaws are permitted to ply outside the city limits of Chennai corporation. The auto and cycle rickshaws are allowed to ply with only one passenger. The auto rickshaw and cycle rickshaws are not allowed to ply in containment zone

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