

COVID-19 BULLETIN

30 APRIL 2021, ISSUE NO 3

CII COVID WEBSITE

At all levels, we are striving to control the COVID situation in the country. CII has continued to take up multiple initiatives to ensure that lives, livelihoods and the business ecosystem can be protected from the ongoing crisis.

A CII Task Force on Ensuring Business Continuity and Operations across States has been set up under the chairmanship of Mr Sanjiv Puri, Chairman and Managing Director of ITC Limited. The Task Force will look into the issues arising out of curfews and restrictions in the states for businesses.

CII Recommendations



CII has submitted various recommendations to the Government of India and NITI Aayog. A consultation with Empowered Group 3 chaired by Shri Amitabh Kant was held to share inputs from the industry. Below are some key recommendations.

Recommendations on oxygen supplies

Direct vessels should be used to import liquid oxygen and unloaded first and containers should be reached to key destinations.

Support equipment needs to be imported including ISO containers, cylinders for liquid oxygen and oxygen gas, personal oxygen concentrators for home treatment and PSA and VSA containers for hospitals. Military Oxygen Generators, which are light weight, modular and can be used for about 50 bedded hospitals, can also be imported. Industry could be encouraged to use their CSR funds in creating this pool.

For expanding domestic manufacturing, 20 leading manufacturers could be identified and provided support for importing some of the required components to reduce set-up time to about 8 weeks. This can add a capacity of about 500 MT per month over 3 months.

Recommendations on vaccination and testing

Distribute vaccination supplies to States according to well-defined criteria. As per experts, population size, exposure and vulnerability can be mapped to supply specific required quantities to the States.

Scale up RTPCR testing to double the current daily numbers both in urban and rural India. The requirements for testing kits can be met through imports or ramping up domestic manufacturing, including Rapid Antigen Self Testing Kits for use at home. Vacant educational institution premises or other unused premises can be used for community testing facilities at scale.

Recommendations on infrastructure and logistics

Deploy Armed Forces and central security forces for temporary medical facilities, logistics, infrastructure and personnel.

Strengthen security at hospitals for medical personnel and protect people and property.

Create central asset mapping control team for monitoring supply of various essential critical care items as well as predicting possible occurrences of shortages and preemptively enhancing States' capacities. Shortages may be made known to industry for helping reach resources.

Strengthen logistics to reach supplies to the affected districts. Transportation must also be put in place for supplying the required medical drugs and oxygen on a continuous basis to districts where requirements are high, including Railways and road corridors with minimal state border delays. Transport arrangements for oxygen supplies linking to nearby factories is critical.

Recommendations on manpower

Tap manpower sources such as retired medical personnel, doctors and nurses. Nursing and medical students who have finished GNM/BSC training and who are awaiting exams can be roped in. Medical specialists, PG seat aspiring doctors and specialists can be included.

Offer training through short courses through the Healthcare Sector Skill Council. NRIs working abroad as doctors and nurses can be encouraged to come back for a national cause for a brief period.

Updates, Notifications and Advisories

The below newsletters present a compilation of Central and State Government notifications and advisories.

- [COVID-19 Updates, Notifications and Advisories: Issue No 6, 27 April](#)
- [COVID-19 Updates, Notifications and Advisories: Issue No 7, 28 April](#)
- [COVID-19 Updates, Notifications and Advisories: Issue No 8, 29 April](#)

State Interventions

Representations to the State Governments - A total of 98 policy representations were submitted by CII to the State Governments.

Queries addressed from the industry - 112 queries were resolved and 61 meetings held in total, as on 29th April 2021.

Regional Updates

CII Eastern Region engaged in policy advocacy. A special initiative was Yi Jamshedpur COVID-19 Guide - Navigating the Pandemic 2021. Through this compilation, Yi Jamshedpur collated essential contacts of services and vendors for Jamshedpur in one single database and launched the website www.jamshedpurfightscovid.in.

CII Western Region held several interactions with the State Government and was actively engaged in various COVID related work and information dissemination, amongst others.

Click on the link below for more details:

- [Eastern and North Eastern Region](#)
- [Western Region](#)

Media

India Inc offers balm amid viral disaster

Indian companies are stepping in to fill the gaps in India's healthcare infrastructure, crumbling under an explosion of covid-19 cases, supplying medical oxygen, cryogenic vessels, and oxygen concentrators. [Read more](#)

India Inc is coming together to ramp up Oxygen capacity and strengthen its supply chain

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has formed a Task Force on Oxygen Supply Chain to work with Central and State Governments to augment oxygen supply by working on domestic capacity enhancement and imports; logistical issues between States including issues of transportation, non-availability of cylinders; policy-level interventions. [Read more](#)

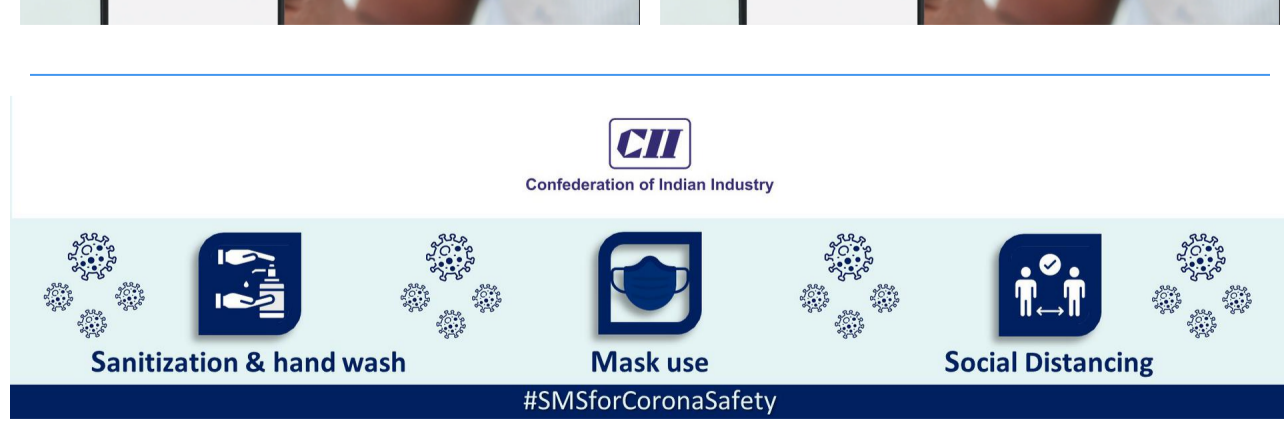
India Inc to ramp up oxygen capacity, strengthen supply chain: CII

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has formed a task force on oxygen supply chain to work with the Central and state governments to augment oxygen supply, its packaging and transport. [Read more](#)

CM seeks support from CII for Covid vaccination

Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio has reached out to the corporate to fund the State's Covid vaccination drive. In a letter to Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) President Mr Uday Kotak, Rio mentioned that the State would be requiring 16 lakh doses of vaccine to cover an estimated eight lakh people in the age-group of 18-44. [Read more](#)

Social Media



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