



UPDATE ON COVID 2019 ADVISORIES AND NOTIFICATIONS

(23 March 2020)

News Updates

Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India appeals to citizens to strictly adhere to lockdown.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has made an appeal to the people to save their families and themselves by strictly adhering to the directions on social distancing given by the State and Central Governments.

US Federal Reserve announces extensive new measures to support the economy

The Federal Reserve, guided by its mandate from Congress to promote employment and provide stability to the financial system, announced new measures for the US economy. It is also expected to announce its program to support eligible SMEs business.

Coronavirus Research Tracker: Update

The Indian Council of Medical Research, Government of India is conducting a study based on mathematical modelling that may give a host of information related to the spread of Coronavirus in the country. Several companies and labs in India are working towards developing or repurposing the existing anti-viral drugs that might work against the disease. Researchers at IIT Delhi have developed a test kit that could slash the cost of diagnosing COVID-19.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issues temporary policy and guidelines for Industry and Healthcare Professionals.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the FDA has received several queries concerning risk evaluation and mitigation strategies (REMS). In view of this, FDA has issued temporary policies and guidelines for Industry and Healthcare professionals.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issues guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff.

FDA has issued guidance to provide a policy to help expand the availability of ventilators as well as other respiratory devices and their accessories during the COVID-19 pandemic. This policy will create more flexibility for manufacturers that make device modifications to address current manufacturing limitations. This will help manufacturers that want to add production lines or manufacture at alternative sites.

Germany Economy situation due to COVID-19 outbreak

The German economy started picking up after global industrial recession and trade conflicts since the beginning of 2018. The slight upward trend has been stopped by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Updates from Egypt- may resort to lockdown

Egypt may resort to locking down certain regions if the rate of coronavirus infections increases. Egypt has so far registered 294 coronavirus cases, including 10 deaths.

State Aid- Commission approves €3 billion Portuguese guarantee schemes for SMEs and midcaps affected by Corona Virus

Portugal notifies four guarantee schemes for SMEs and midcaps affected by the Coronavirus outbreak in the following sectors: (i) tourism; (ii) restaurants (and other similar activities); (iii) extractive and Manufacturing industry; and (iv) travel agency activities, touristic animation, event organisation (and similar activities).

Launch of a European clinical trial against COVID-19.

The EU has announced updated recommendations for testing strategies to manage the Corona Virus outbreak.

China news- President Xi's diplomacy prioritizes solidarity, cooperation.

President Xi Jinping has used head-of-state diplomacy to call for the building of a community of common health for mankind amid the mounting global public health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, observers said.

People's Bank of China official plays down financial crisis.

Despite recent tumbling in the global financial market in the wake of the novel coronavirus pandemic, it is still too early to tell if a global financial crisis has arrived, a Chinese central bank official said on Sunday.

China's inflation to ease in rest of the year: Central Bank official.

With the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak being kept under control and market supplies improving, consumer inflation in China is likely to ease in the following quarters, a vice governor of the central bank said Sunday.

China's financial market remains stable amid COVID-19 impact.

China's financial market remains generally stable compared with overseas markets despite the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), according to the country's top securities watchdog.

Shanghai focuses on foreign business and trade.

Shanghai is focusing on helping foreign businesses resume normal operations, a press conference heard on Friday, to make sure economic development goes smoothly.

Central Advisories and Notifications

Ministry of Corporate Affairs issues circular on spending of CSR funds for COVID-19

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs has issued a circular clarifying that spending of CSR funds for COVID-19 pandemic is eligible as CSR activity. These funds may be spent for various activities related to promotion of healthcare, including preventive healthcare and sanitation, and disaster management.

Ministry of Labour and Employment requests Chief Secretaries to issue necessary advisory to Employers of Public/ Private Establishments on employment.

In its letter to Chief Secretaries of States and UTs, Ministry of Labour and Employment advised Employers of Public/ Private Establishments not to cut wages. Further if the worker takes leave, he is deemed to be on duty and if the place of employment is non-operational due to COVID-19, employees are deemed to be on duty.

Ministry of Home Affairs issues memorandum on closing of Immigration Check Posts for all incoming passenger traffic.

In its official memorandum, Ministry of Home Affairs orders closing of all Immigration Check Posts (ICPS) for all incoming passenger traffic. However vehicles/ trains carrying goods for trade and essential goods and supplies are exempted from this prohibition, subject to their screening by medical staff for COVID-19.

State Advisories and Notifications

Government of Haryana imposes lockdown in the entire State till 31 March 2020.

Under Section 2 of the Epidemic Disease Act, 1897 and regulation made thereof, the Government of Haryana notified a lockdown in the entire State till 31 March 2020. All shops, commercial establishments, offices, factories, workshops will remain closed and public transport except for emergency services will not operate. People have been advised to stay at home and come out only for basic services while strictly following social distancing guidelines.

Government of Maharashtra notifies lockdown in the State till 31 March 2020

The Government of Maharashtra has imposed a lockdown in the entire state with immediate effect till 31 March, 2020. All State borders has been sealed other than for movement of essential and perishable communities. All public transport has been stopped except for emergency services. All shops, commercial establishments, offices shall remain closed with the exemption of production and manufacturing units which require continuous process such has pharmaceuticals, API etc. Government offices, shops and establishments are permitted to operate during this period after ensuring social distancing guidelines.

Mumbai promulgates Orders under Section 144 prohibiting movement

Mumbai administration passed a prohibitory order for restricting presence movement of persons in public and any vehicles carrying such persons to prevent spread of the COVID- 19 virus. The order does not apply to exempted entities under emergency services.

Government of Punjab imposes complete lockdown till 31 March 2020

Government of Punjab has notified a complete lockdown in the entire State till 31 March 2020. All private shops, offices, factories, workshops excluding godowns and warehouses shall remain closed during this period and no public transport shall operate except the exempted categories.

Government of Tamil Nadu notifies lockdown in the State till the morning of April 1, 2020

The Government of Tamil Nadu has imposed a lockdown in the entire state with immediate effect till the morning of April 1, 2020. All State borders has been sealed other than for movement of essential and perishable communities. All public transport has been stopped except for emergency services. All shops, commercial establishments, offices shall remain closed.

Government of Telangana notifies lockdown in the State till 31 March 2020

The Government of Telangana has imposed a lockdown in the entire state with immediate effect till 31 March, 2020. All State borders has been sealed other than for movement of essential and perishable communities. All public transport has been stopped except for emergency services. All shops, commercial establishments, offices, etc shall remain closed with the exemption of production and manufacturing units which require continuous process such has pharmaceuticals, API etc. Government offices, shops and establishments are permitted to operate during this period after ensuring social distancing guidelines.

Government of Bihar notifies lockdown in the State till 31 March 2020

The Government of Bihar has imposed a lockdown in the entire state with immediate effect till 31 March 2020. All public transport has been stopped except for emergency services. All shops, commercial establishments, offices shall remain closed with the exemption of certain categories.

Visakhapatnam imposes lockdown till 31 March 2020

The district administration of Visakhapatnam promulgates Section 144 prohibiting the gathering of five or more persons at one place including lockdown in the entire district till 31 March 2020.

Government of Himachal Pradesh imposes lockdown till further orders.

The Government of Himachal Pradesh has imposed a lockdown in the entire State. Movement of public transport had been prohibited except for emergency services. All shops, commercial establishments, offices and factories, workshops will remain closed and no public transport services will operate with the exception of those under essential services.

Closure of / Restrictions on Industries in Pune District

The District Administration of Pune has ordered closure of all enterprises in the manufacturing sector and the IT / ITeS sector till further orders and directed its employees to work from home with certain exceptions.

District Administration Dewas imposes lockdown till 24 March 2020

The District Administration of Dewas has imposed a complete lockdown till 24 March, 2020. All shops, commercial establishments, offices and factories, workshops etc will remain closed and no public transport services will operate except for those under essential services.

District Administration Raigarh imposes complete lockdown till 31 March 2020.

The District Administration of Raigarh has imposed lockdown till 31 March 2020 in the entire district. All shops, offices, factories, workshops except those in exempted categories shall remain closed during this period.

Section 144 imposed in Indore till 31 March 2020

The District Administration of Indore has imposed Section 144 in the entire district till 31 March 2020. All shops, commercial establishments, offices will remain closed during this period.

Government of Goa imposes Section 144 till 25 March 2020

Government of Goa extended the Janta Curfew for another three days ie. till 25 March 2020. This would be treated as paid holiday for the casual / daily wage workers in various

establishments including government offices but excepting for those engaged in the essential services.

District Administration Kolhapur imposes lockdown till 31 March 2020.

The District Administration of Kolhapur has imposed lockdown till 31 March 2020 in the entire district. All shops, offices, factories, workshops except those in exempted categories shall remain closed during this period.

District Administration Aurangabad imposes lockdown till 31 March 2020.

The District Administration of Aurangabad has imposed lockdown till 31 March 2020 in the entire district. All shops, offices, factories, workshops except those in exempted categories shall remain closed during this period.

International Advisories and Notifications

USA guidelines to slow spread of Coronavirus

The White House and the Centre for Disease Control has issued fresh guidelines to slow the spread of Corona Virus in the US.

Mali Government issues advisory on COVID-19

The Mali Government has issued an advisory which suspends commercial flights from affected countries, except cargo flights, closure of schools and prohibition on gatherings.

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