PUNJAB COVID-19 RESPONSE

Initiatives and Policy Measures

Department of Governance Reforms and Public Grievances
Government of Punjab
## India COVID19 Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>World</th>
<th>India</th>
<th>Punjab</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cases</strong></td>
<td>5,848,294</td>
<td>165,028</td>
<td>2,158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New Cases</strong></td>
<td>113,430</td>
<td>6,942</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Death</strong></td>
<td>359,653</td>
<td>4,695</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New Death</strong></td>
<td>5,445</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>% Case Fatality</strong></td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Recovered</strong></td>
<td>2,537,939</td>
<td>70,556</td>
<td>1,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>% Recovery</strong></td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Active Cases</strong></td>
<td>2,950,702</td>
<td>89,777</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>% Active</strong></td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong># Cases per Mn pop</strong></td>
<td>731</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## State level COVID19 Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Cured</th>
<th>Death</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Recovery Rate</th>
<th>Case Fatality Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>59,546</td>
<td>18,616</td>
<td>1,982</td>
<td>38,948</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>19,372</td>
<td>10,548</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>8,676</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>16,281</td>
<td>7,495</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>8,470</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>15,572</td>
<td>8,003</td>
<td>960</td>
<td>6,609</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>8,067</td>
<td>4,815</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>3,073</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>7,453</td>
<td>4,050</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>3,082</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>6,991</td>
<td>3,991</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>2,157</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>4,536</td>
<td>1,668</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>2,573</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>3,245</td>
<td>2,133</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>1,053</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>3,090</td>
<td>918</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2,157</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>2,531</td>
<td>818</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1,666</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telangana</td>
<td>2,215</td>
<td>1,345</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>2,158</td>
<td>1,946</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J&amp;K</td>
<td>2,036</td>
<td>859</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1,150</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odisha</td>
<td>1,660</td>
<td>887</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>766</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>1,504</td>
<td>881</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8,771</td>
<td>1,583</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>7,157</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total India</strong></td>
<td>165,028</td>
<td>70,556</td>
<td>4,695</td>
<td>89,777</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As on 28.05.2020; 
Punjab was the first State in the Country to impose a curfew, even before the National Lockdown. Since then, the State Government has taken several measures to manage the pandemic and its implications.

4 High Level Committees set up to interface with the Central Government and provide guidance to the departments on Strategy and Implementation:

1. COVID Care Centre and Private Sector Participation Committee
2. Health Sector Response and Procurement Committee
3. Committee on Augmenting Human Resources and Capacity Building
4. Goods Transport Committee
Punjab among the **first few states in India to approve Plasma treatment** for critical COVID-19 patients in hospitals. All major Medical Colleges of the state now part of the ICMR project.

Punjab was the **first to conduct pool testing** trials in GMC Amritsar and GMC Patiala on **15 April**. Current capacity for pooled testing is **2000 samples per day** (approx.) **11,827** total pooled samples tested as on **27 May 2020**

Government of Punjab constituted a **Task Force for Strategy on easing restrictions imposed due to Lockdown**

Government of Punjab constituted a **Group of Experts led by Sh. Montek Singh Ahluwalia** to develop a medium-term and longer-term **Post COVID Economic Strategy** for the State
COVID-19 Public Health Strategy in Punjab

5 PILLARS

1. Political & Administrative Commitment
2. Preparedness
3. Surveillance (Trace-Test-Treat Principle)
4. Capacity Building
5. Intersectoral Coordination

REGULAR SURVEILLANCE FOR EARLY DETECTION

1. Surveillance of ILI (Influenza Like Illness)
2. Surveillance in Large Outbreaks
3. Surveillance in Cluster Areas

IEC ACTIVITIES

A State Public Health Advisory Group under the Chairpersonship of Dr K. K. Talwar constituted with the State Epidemiologist as the Convener.
Regular Surveillance

Punjab has initiated surveillance for **ILI (Influenza like illness)** in the community to identify any person having flu like symptoms at the earliest.

Regular Surveillance for early detection is supervised by **Rapid Response Teams (RRTs)**. Tracking and screening of high suspect cases is being done.

Approximately **1.45 lac persons in 22 high priority areas** which have shown clusters (2 or >2 & less than 15 cases) also screened by RRTs and samples of suspected cases are being taken.

Survey in Large Outbreak Areas – Earlier, 4 areas in the State had >15 cases and had been classified as large outbreak areas. **Currently, there are NO areas with large outbreaks (15 or more cases)**
GMC Amritsar and GMC Patiala got approved in March 2020 for RT-PCR COVID19 testing with a capacity of 40 tests/day. The current capacity of Punjab Govt. Facilities is 6000/day.

From 4 tests per million population on March 16th to 2418 tests per million population on May 27th
## COVID-19 Treatment Facilities

### LEVEL 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVID CARE CENTRES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic cases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <strong>27,700 beds mapped</strong> across districts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <strong>12,000 Beds in the state of readiness</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LEVEL 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVID HEALTH CENTRES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Mild to moderately symptomatic cases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <strong>3190 beds operationalized</strong> across <strong>54 facilities</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LEVEL 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVID HOSPITALS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Severely symptomatic and Critical Care patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <strong>COVID ICU Beds – 1916</strong> (Govt. 1006 and Pvt. 910)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Level-II are hospital beds with oxygen supply.
At present, the bed strength in 3 Govt. Medical Colleges, Private Medical Colleges and Private Hospitals is a total of **1,916**.
Flu Corners

Flu corners are set up in Hospitals to screen all suspected cases of respiratory tract infections or cases presenting symptoms similar to those of coronavirus.

These serve as the first points of contact for these patients and ensure that movement of such cases is restricted in order to prevent the spread of the disease.

Flu corners have been running in all the districts of Punjab.

Punjab has set up 228 Flu Corners (22 in District Hospitals, 42 in Sub-Divisional Hospitals, 16 in Public Health Centers, 145 in Community Health Centers, and 3 in Govt. Medical Colleges) with sample collection facility in 111 Flu Corners.
## Helpline Services

The Government of Punjab has operationalized **3 new helpline numbers** and individual district emergency response helpline numbers for citizens to access support and services from the Government.

This is in addition to the **2 existing helpline numbers** that are also being used to support COVID related concerns.

Everyday, data from all these numbers is analyzed to show the type of calls, resolutions provided, geography and demography of the callers to aid evidence-based decision making.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Helpline</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Calls Received Per Day (avg.)</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single Emergency Helpline for anyone in distress</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>19,801</td>
<td>28.05.2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambulance service for medical emergency</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>8,464</td>
<td>24.05.2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health emergency number</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>6,635</td>
<td>27.05.2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dial a Doctor (launched on 31 March 2020)</td>
<td>1800</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>28.05.2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helpline for essential services</td>
<td>1095</td>
<td>12,786</td>
<td>28.05.2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Protocols

1. Guidelines and Checklists for Establishing and Operationalizing COVID Care Centres

2. Guidelines regarding sanitizations of ambulances, oxygen cylinders, x-ray machines, and other equipment/ Hospital furniture

3. Guidelines for infection prevention and control for isolation
Advisories Issued [1/2]

1. Advisory for the People Involved in Frequent Interstate/Intrastate Movement
2. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of State Transport Undertakings
3. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Sewa Kendras and their Staff
4. Advisory for the Special Care of Elderlies/Senior Citizens
5. Advisory on Maintaining and Ensuring the Safety of Food and Other Essential Household Items
6. Advisory on Maintaining the Hygiene and Sanitization of Shops
7. Advisory on the Use of Air-Conditioning in Residential/Commercial/Hospital Settings
Advisories Issued [2/2]

8. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Bank Spaces and their Staff

9. Advisory on Safe Farming Operations (Procurement and Marketing)

10. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Public/Private Sector Industries and Staff

11. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization while Carrying-out Works Under MNREGA

12. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Office Spaces and Staff

13. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization at Petrol Pumps

14. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Plying Goods Vehicles and Drivers/Workers
Migrant Laborers

Government of Punjab has been proactively ensuring that needs of migrants in the State are given utmost priority.

From 3 May 2020 till 27 May 2020, the Government of Punjab has facilitated the return of more than 4,91,316 migrant workers to their home states.

Cooked Food

18,25,000 cooked food packets distributed across 22 districts by the State Govt while NGOs distributed 1.24 crore packets.

Ration Kits

21,96,000 ration kits distributed across 22 districts by the State Govt while NGOs distributed 2,61,000 kits.

Shelter Camps

More than 700 shelter camps across 22 districts

Rail and Bus Service

Govt. of Punjab spent Rs.26.01 crores and paid for railway tickets of 4,68,310 persons in 365 trains In addition, 23,006 persons have been carried in 788 buses to other states.
COVA Punjab

1st Mobile App in India, launched on 9th March 2020, with geotagging and geofencing features

11 States requested Punjab for access to the App and its features

23 Lac+ downloads; Available on iOS AppStore and Android PlayStore

Find nearest COVID patient
Geofencing of quarantined individuals
Contact tracing of positive cases
Report mass gathering
Real time dashboard and analytics
Order grocery and essential goods

As on 28.05.2020
To ensure smooth operations in Mandis during the procurement weeks under COVID-19, Punjab developed a unique centralized automated, logic-based tech platform to issue e-Passes to farmers. All movement in the Mandis were managed online.

A dedicated dashboard - corona.punjab.gov.in to analyse the trend and pattern of cases including prediction of future hotspots to help authorities to take timely decisions.

A platform - covidhelp.punjab.gov.in for people who want to go to their home states from Punjab and those wanting to return.

Punjab launched tele-medicine & tele-counselling initiatives for general patients other than COVID-19 to get consultation from home with the empaneled doctors/counselors through video call.

Deployed UiPath RPA BOT to extract district specific information from the email, coming from more than 20 district authorities. The BOT saves the information in respective district folder.
## IT Initiatives [2/2]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Punjab has initiated a <strong>mass awareness campaign</strong> to educate and inform its citizens across all the channels (Radio, TV, Social Media, Print Media) about this pandemic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>eSanjeevani (Online OPD), a CDAC Mohali’s flagship integrated telemedicine solution was implemented across the state to connect with a network of senior doctors over video conferencing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><strong>Video Conferencing Solutions</strong> are being leveraged to facilitate Work-from-Home for the staff along with important webinars and VCs by the CM and other administrative staff.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Other Actions

The first manufacturer of PPE in Punjab was approved on **27 March 2020**. As on date there are **93 PPE kit manufacturers** approved by Government of India.
SUCCESS STORY

S.B.S. Nagar was the first hotspot in Punjab. It currently has one of the highest recovery rates among all districts. No new case was reported in the district for 28 continuous days.*

- Effective Mechanisms put in place for **Self-Reporting**.
- Decentralized Approach.
- Strong **community support**
- **Team** of Sarpanches, Sector Magistrates, SHOs, Tehsildars, Police & DC Office formed
- Youth Volunteers engaged.
- **Patrolling parties** per 10 villages.
- Strong **Public Information Campaign**.
- **Grievance Redressal Mechanism**.

*New cases have been reported since April 24, 2020

---

**Cluster Containment**

15 villages were contained as per Containment plan and around 30,000 persons were Home Quarantined.

**Door to door Survey in 15-villages**

Extensive searching/monitoring of Symptomatic/suspected cases in the villages by SMO/RRT through ASHA door to door survey. 100% houses covered in 15-villages.

**Extensive Contact Tracing**

All contacts (both high risk and low risk) quarantined and put on surveillance. All confirmed cases were isolated and provided medical care.

**System to identify Symptomatic persons**

Each flu-like symptoms case reported by any screening source is reported to the SMO and visited by RRT. RRT then gives feedback to SMO for further action. SMOs compile all such cases and send to District level Committee twice a day. Committee consists of Medical, Civil and Police officials.
Emergency measures to combat Coronavirus menace. Punjab Cabinet approves notification to set up Flu Corners in all Govt and Pvt hospitals

Social Security Relief

On CM's directives, Finance Department released ₹296 crore on account of social security pensions to 24.70 lakh beneficiaries for Jan & Feb 2020

Committees

4 Committees to deal with Covid-19 management - Health Sector Response & Procurement; Lockdown Implementation; Media & Comm.; Agriculture & Food

Relief Fund

Government of Punjab has released ₹150 Cr for relief works and ₹50 Cr for medical equipment

**Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [1/5]**

- **Emergency Measures**: March 2
- **Social Security Relief**: March 9, March 21
- **Committees**: March 22, March 29
- **Relief Fund**: April 6

**COVA App**

“COVA” mobile app launched to sensitize people about precautions from Novel Corona Virus

**Lockdown**

Punjab Govt. orders State-wide Lockdown. Section 144 imposed from March 23 to 31 to combat Covid-19 Pandemic

**Disaster Res. Fund**

₹53.43 crore released to DCs to immediately tackle any exigency arising out of Covid-19 crisis
30-member control room set-up at the Mandi Board for support during the ensuing wheat harvesting and marketing season, set to begin on April 15

15-member multi-disciplinary task force set up to formulate exit strategy for gradual relaxation of curfew/lockdown in Punjab, will submit report in 10 days

Punjab Police has formulated a detailed strategy to tackle such cases, with daily action taken reports to be submitted by the DSP for Crime Against Women (CAW)

Mr. Montek S. Ahluwalia heads 20-member expert group to formulate Punjab's post-covid revival strategy. Initial report to be submitted on July 31

Punjab Govt. led by Chief Minister ramped up its testing capacity by 10 times with procurement of 5 RTPCR and 4 RNA extraction machines (with automation)

Infrastructure of 3691 purchase centers including 153 main yards, 280 sub yards, 1434 purchase centers besides adding 1824 yards of rice mills created

Telemedicine services in 300 Health and Wellness Centres to provide ‘Comprehensive Primary Health Services’ on door-steps of people in rural areas)
Govt of Punjab imposed curfew in all 22 districts, however, essential facilities, including MNREGA works, allowed to continue/start

Compulsory institutional quarantine, for both positive and negative cases coming from other states

Govt of Punjab decides to provide subsidy up to 50% on purchase of machinery to help farmers to tackle the problem of labour scarcity amid COVID

Punjab Government has spent more than ₹6 Cr to fund movement of migrants to their states till now

State-wide Curfew
April 26

Compulsory Quarantine
April 30

Machinery Subsidy
May 5

Movement of Migrants
May 13

COVID Help Regn.
April 29

Child Rights in COVID
April 30

Compensation
May 10

Online registration for people who want to return to Punjab from other states and countries—http://covidhelp.punjab.gov.in

Govt of Punjab appointed Vice-Chairperson and 4 Non-Official members of the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights

Grant of ex-gratia compensation (Rs. 50 lakhs) to the dependant members/legal heirs of employees, who die in harness while on Government duty
Punjab Govt. assures that only those schools which are imparting online education will be allowed to charge tuition fee for lockdown period.

School Tuition Fees
May 14

Amid decline in daily count of new cases over past few days, Punjab Govt. announced replacement of strict curfew with lockdown till May 31.

Curfew replaced with Lockdown
May 16

During the country’s largest wheat procurement process, not a single case of Corona spreading through mandis in Punjab.

No COVID-19 case during Procurement
May 17

Punjab Govt. launches telemedicine venture between Cleveland Clinic USA & CMC Ludhiana. Cleveland Clinic to provide Physician-to-Physician video consultations.

Telemedicine Collaboration
May 18

Punjab Govt. assures that only those schools which are imparting online education will be allowed to charge tuition fee for lockdown period.

Punjab Govt. assures that only those schools which are imparting online education will be allowed to charge tuition fee for lockdown period.

Save Animals
May 16

Free vaccination to save animals from diseases such as Hemorrhagic septisemia (Ghal ghotu), swine fever and Black quarter (Patt soj).

Free Medicines for Co-morbidities
May 17

Punjab Govt. is providing free of cost medicines to the patients those are on treatment for hypertension and diabetes as advised by MOs and RMOs.

RTI Helpline
May 18

RTI helpline for prompt response to people’s RTI related queries launched. +91 172 2864100 to be operational from 10am-4pm, Monday-Friday.
Punjab Govt. decides to grant 180 days Maternity Leave to Government College Guest Faculty Lecturers.

CDAC Mohali’s flagship integrated telemedicine solution implemented across the state. Gynaecology Services to start from 1st June.

Punjab’s recovery at over 90% with only 143 active cases. Five districts, namely Sangrur, SAS Nagar, Ferozepur, Bathinda & Moga have 0 active cases.

The investments in IT/ITeS sectors in state have touched ₹605 Cr, which is approx. 65% higher than the investment figure of last financial year.

Punjab Govt. decided to extend the deadline to pay the outstanding house tax or property tax without any penalty till 30th June 2020.

Punjab Land Development and Financial Corporation has issued subsidy to the tune of ₹140.40 lakh for SC beneficiaries to help them recover from COVID crisis.

Amid the success of PPE Manufacturers in Punjab, Govt. has requested all States to order from these units whenever needed at HLL rates.
Thank You