India

The number of cases reported in India now stands at 13,387, of which 11,201 are active cases (previous day’s tally: 11439).

Government maintains that rate of infection is low, with one in every 24 samples testing positive.

Total no. of cases: 13387
Active COVID-19 patients: 11201
No. of foreign nationals: 76
Death toll: 437
No. of patients discharged/cured: 1749

State-wise tally of confirmed positive cases*
Maharashtra: 3236 (Death toll: 194)
Madhya Pradesh: 1299 (Death toll: 53)
Gujarat: 1032 (Death toll: 38)
Chhattisgarh: 36 (Active cases: 13)
Goa: 7

(*State-wise distribution is subject to further verification and reconciliation)

2,90,401 people have been tested till date, of which 30,043 (26,331 tests done at ICMR's 176 labs and 3,712 tests at 78 private labs) were conducted yesterday.

India’s case fatality rate is 3.3% and percentage of people recovered is 12.02%.

325 districts in India have zero cases of COVID19.

The Centre has released a list of 170 ‘hotspot districts’ which includes six metros – Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru. Cities such as Jaipur and Agra are also in the list of places where number Coronavirus patients was high. The government said that out of the 170 hotspots, 47 shows cluster outbreaks.

Centre issues strategic approach for COVID-19: Broadly involves defining Area of Operation, Applying Perimeter Control, Delineating Containment and Buffer zones, Active search for cases, contact tracing, Quarantine, Clinical management and awareness generation among the public.

55 countries approved to get HCQ medicine out of which 21 countries to get it on a commercial basis and others on a grant that is in very small quantities.

Prices of raw materials, also called active pharmaceutical ingredients, and basic chemicals used to manufacture Covid drugs have skyrocketed between three and 10 times since March 20, due to opportunistic pricing, black marketing, short supply and weakening of the rupee.
Government on Friday removed restrictions on exports of formulations made from Paracetamol amid COVID-19 outbreak. However, restrictions on exports of Paracetamol active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) will continue: Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).

Indian missions also took quotations for testing kits from vendors in UK, Malaysia, France, Germany, Japan and the US. Indian missions are coordinating with major agencies for PPE kits. India will soon get a huge consignment of PPE kits.

Experts who participated in a webinar on “Biotech To The Rescue” organised by Bennett University on Thursday were unanimous that India needs to ramp up testing to fight this pandemic better. But they also felt the country was a powerhouse of innovation and its scientific community aided by business could convert this crisis into an opportunity by becoming future-ready.

If a passenger has booked a ticket during the first phase of lockdown period (25th March-14th April), the airline shall refund the full amount; refund to be made within a period of 3 weeks from date of request of cancellation: Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Mobile phones, televisions, refrigerators, laptops and stationery items will be allowed to be sold through e-commerce platforms like Amazon, Flipkart and Snapdeal from April 20 during the lockdown, officials said on Thursday.

However, the delivery vans of the e-commerce companies will need permission from authorities for plying on the roads.

India’s foodgrain production target at record 298 million tonnes in 2020-21. The agriculture ministry placed this target before the states during kharif national conference.

The Ministry of Home Affairs said that the Zoom meeting app was not a safe platform for video conferences. The app indulges in dubious practices and has issues relating to privacy and security.

Alcohol, which was already selling for a premium due to the lockdown, is now being sold at double the MRP (maximum retail price) in the black market.

**Maharashtra**

At least 34 new COVID-19 cases were reported in about 12 hours from Maharashtra — the majority of them being from Pune. With this, the state’s cumulative tally has touched 3,236.

The Maharashtra cyber police teams have, since the lockdown, registered 218 cases of fake news and hate speeches being shared on social media.

Two more Covid-19 cases detected in Nashik; district count now 48.

Nearly 150 healthcare workers have been found positive for Covid-19.

**Mumbai**

107 new COVID-19 positive cases, 3 deaths reported in Mumbai today; the total number of positive cases in Mumbai rise to 2043 (including 116 deaths). Number of cured cases in the city is 202.

26 new Covid-19 cases reported from Dharavi, taking the total number of positive cases in Dharavi to 86 (9 deaths).

Mumbai: Dadar-Mahim area sees highest growth rate

With 111 new corona cases in the past week, G North ward comprising Dadar-Mahim has recorded the highest growth rate at 42 per cent.
In Thane, while the total number of cases rose by nine to 110, no fresh discharges or deaths were recorded. In the Kalyan Dombivali area, two fresh cases and two deaths were recorded, bringing the total number of cases to 59

Pune

A total of at least 520 people have now been infected by the virus in Pune district with 48 deaths.

Gujarat

92 new Covid-19 positive cases, one more death reported in last 12 hours.

Ahmedabad, a national Covid hotspot, reported 95 fresh cases. The district now accounts for 59% of the total positive cases in Gujarat.

Gujarat’s tally of cases has now reached 1032, including 36 deaths.

Ahmedabad recorded 95 cases on Thursday, single day highest for the district.

Total positive cases in Bharuch at 17.

Gujarat is proud of scientists at Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre, the only state government lab in India that has reported Covid-19 whole genome sequence which will be helpful in tracking origin, drug targets, vaccine and association with virulence: Gujarat CMO

Madhya Pradesh

Madhya Pradesh recorded huge surge in Covid-19 infections, with 361 new cases reported on Thursday, the highest single-day figure for any state so far. Indore alone accounted for 244 cases. Total tally in the state now at 1299.

No testing was done in the state till 23 March as there was no lab here. Today, 1200 tests are conducted in the state every day. Also, we are sending samples to labs in Delhi and Noida for testing: Madhya Pradesh CM

Goa

No new positive Covid-19 reported in Goa; the total number of positive cases in the state is 7 including 6 cured/discharged: Goa Health Department.

Chhattisgarh

Three more people tested positive for coronavirus in Katghora town of Chhattisgarh's Korba district, taking the number of such cases in the State to 36.

The number of active cases in the State is 13, as 23 people have recovered from the infection.