PUNJAB COVID-19 RESPONSE

Initiatives and Policy Measures

Department of Governance Reforms and Public Grievances
Government of Punjab

Prepared by Governance Fellows
As on 19.09.2020 11:51pm; Source: www.covid19india.org, www.worldometers.info, Health Dept. GoP.
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.

Punjab has set up a State COVID-19 Management Group to review the situation and send their report to the Chief Minister. 13 Committees have been set up to report to the group:

1. Health Sector Response and Procurement Committee
2. Lockdown Instructions and Implementation Committee
3. Media and Communication Committee
4. Agriculture and Food Committee
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Committee Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Relief for Migrant Workers Committee</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Goods Transport Committee</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>COVID Care Centre Committee</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Committee on Augmenting Human Resources and Capacity Building</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Committee on upgradation of Health Sector Infrastructure</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Tele-Counselling Services Committee</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Food Grain Procurement Management Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Expenditure Appraisal Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Data Analysis Group</td>
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SOME IMPORTANT DECISIONS

1. **Free Walk-in testing** has been allowed in all government and private labs from **September 2020** so any citizen can come and get tested.

2. **Mobile Clinics** with testing facilities were launched in **August 2020** in Ludhiana and Patiala and being planned for Mohali and other districts.


4. **Ventilators** have been provided to both government and private hospitals as per the requirement.

5. **COVID-19 Anti-Stigma and Anti-Discrimination Campaign** launched on **11 August 2020** with the support of UNDP and WHO.

Treatment Rates for Private Hospitals have been notified by the State Government basis the professional advice from from Dr. K.K. Talwar Committee.

Punjab among the first few states to approve Plasma treatment for critical COVID-19 patients in hospitals. The 1st Plasma Bank was inaugurated on 21st July 2020. Notification for plasma therapy as free service in government & private facilities done on 1st August. Plasma banks operational in Faridkot, GMC Patiala and GMC Amritsar. A total of 59 Patients have been given Plasma therapy so far.

Punjab Government took a decision to not put stickers in front of houses of COVID positive cases in order to destigmatise
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) and SARI (Severe Acute Respiratory Illness)
2. Surveillance in Large Outbreak Areas
3. Surveillance in Cluster Areas
4. Surveillance in ITIHAS identified 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.
Containment Strategy

- Containment
  - Active Surveillance
    - House to House Surveillance
    - Containment/Micro-Containment
  - 100% Testing
    - Early Testing of Suspects
  - Exhaustive Contact Tracing
    - Contact Tracing
    - Home Quarantine
  - Early Treatment of positive patients
    - COVID Care Centres/Level II/Level III
# Containment & Micro-containment Zones - Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Defining area of operation and applying strict perimeter control.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Active search of cases: early isolation, contact listing and tracking, quarantine and follow up of contacts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Testing all suspect cases, symptomatic contacts, asymptomatic direct and high-risk contacts of a confirmed case and ILI/SARI cases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Isolating all suspect/confirmed cases and providing medical care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Motivating for 100% testing of population especially elderly and persons with co morbidities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Implementing Social distancing measures and creating awareness on hand hygiene, respiratory etiquettes and sanitation.</td>
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</table>
House to House Survey

Punjab has initiated **surveillance for symptomatic persons** in the community to identify any person having COVID-19 symptoms at the earliest as well as to encourage elderly and persons with co-morbidities to get tested.

Regular Surveillance for early detection is supervised by **Rapid Response Teams (RRTs)**. Tracking and screening of contacts of positive patients is being done.

**Survey in Large Outbreak Areas**: 12 areas in the State with >14 cases have been declared as large outbreak areas.

**House to House Survey was launched by the CM.** A total of **26,522 ASHA, Anganwadi workers and volunteers** carried out data collection on a mobile app from 11th June to 31st July whereby **1,16,77,651 persons were surveyed**.

As on 19.09.2020
**Micro Containment Zones**

Any specific area within a ward/village/Lane/Residential Colony or a part of it which has 5 to 14 COVID positive cases is designated as a Micro Containment Zone.

Minimum period of Micro Containment is **10 days**. This Period can be extended one week at a time if more than one new case is found in last 7 days.

**District RRTs to undertake mapping of cases** and contacts along with active surveillance by ASHA workers/Community Volunteers.

**Perimeter Control** to ensure no unchecked outward movement of population from micro-containment zones and to check influx of population into the zones.

Currently, there are **129 Micro Containment Zones across 19 districts** in Punjab.

*As on 19.09.2020*
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 **226 Flu Corners** (19 in District Hospitals, 42 in Sub-Divisional Hospitals, 18 in Public Health Centers, 142 in Community Health Centers, 2 in Govt. Medical Colleges. and 3 in other facilities).
The ‘Lok Saanjedaari’ initiative aims to harness community bond and collective ownership in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to ensure that everyone is involved and engaged in COVID related outreach and awareness measures, the programme calls for the formation of a Core Committee starting in 5 districts – Amritsar, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Patiala and SAS Nagar.

Members of the Core Committee:
1. District Family Planning Officer – Nodal officer
2. SDH & Urban CHC SMO
3. District Mass Media Officer
4. BCC Facilitator
5. NGO
6. Ward/Colony/Society Chairman/Sarpanch or their representative
7. School teacher/Shopkeeper/ PRI/ Social worker/Postman
8. Religious leader or representative
9. Women representative
10. Youth representative
11. ASHA/Nurse /Health Care workers

Activities
- Health Education
  - Community Education
  - Community Training
- Contact Tracing
- Community training on Home Isolation
- Community Surveillance
- Community Isolation Centre

Reporting
The Core Committee submits daily quantitative and weekly qualitative reports to the State Core Committee. Supervision of the Community is done by supervisors from the ward/ zone or district as per their roster.
**Committees**

For the success of the Mission, the following committees have been constituted - Campaign Committee, Implementation Committee, and District Level Implementation Committee.

**Activities**

As part of the communication campaign, methods/platforms such as Hoardings/Posters/Announcements, Campaign Song, IVRS and SMS, Radio, CORONA Warriors, Mission Fateh Warriors, COVA App, Press notes to TV and Newspapers, and Ground Activities with the help of Sarpanches, Teachers and ASHA/Anganwadi workers are being used. Announcements are also being made through Gurudwaras and every Wednesday District Commissioners conduct a Facebook live session on the Campaign.

**Success Indicators**

The campaign is mainly dependent upon the response of the people some success indicators of the campaign are as under –

1. Total Registered Users – 8,79,611
2. Total Photos Uploaded – 2,89,547

*As on 16.09.2020*
## COVID-19 Treatment Facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL 1</th>
<th>LEVEL 2</th>
<th>LEVEL 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COVID CARE CENTRES</td>
<td>COVID HEALTH CENTRES</td>
<td>COVID HOSPITALS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic cases*</td>
<td>- Mild to moderately symptomatic cases</td>
<td>- Severely symptomatic and Critical Care patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <a href="#">12,962 beds in the state of readiness.</a></td>
<td>- <a href="#">5369 beds (with oxygen and without oxygen)</a> in Government facilities</td>
<td>- At present, there are <a href="#">325 level 3 beds (invasive ventilator and without ventilator)</a> in Government facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <a href="#">7088 beds operationalized.</a></td>
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*Home Isolation is also allowed for asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic cases.*

As on 19.09.2020
COVID Care Centers

7088 Beds operationalized in CCCs

As on 19.09.2020
Total number of Home Isolations in Punjab is **13,850**. COVID Care Kits provided for free with supplies such as Pulse Oximeter, digital thermometer etc.

As on 19.09.2020
COVID Health Centres

Level-II are hospital beds with oxygen supply. Total number of beds is **7865**
At present, the level 3 bed strength in Punjab is a total of 1379.
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 17,750/day.

From 4 tests per million population on March 16th to 51,032 tests per million population on September 18th while the current 46,365 Indian average is tests per million population.

As on 18.09.2020

9 Government Facilities
- GMC Amritsar (Capacity - 5500)
- GMC Patiala (Capacity - 5500)
- BFUHS Faridkot (Capacity - 5500)
- GADVASU, Ludhiana (Capacity - 750)
- RDDL, Jalandhar (Capacity - 150)
- Forensic Science Lab, Mohali (Capacity - 100)
- Punjab Biotech Incubator, Mohali (Capacity - 250)
- PGI Chandigarh (Capacity - 150)
- IMTech Chandigarh (Capacity - 100)

76 Private Facilities approved by ICMR for testing in Punjab.

As on 18.09.2020
Rapid Antigen Testing

Punjab government started COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Testing on 10th July 2020. 5000 kits were distributed in 8 districts - Amritsar, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Mohali, Patiala, Kapurthala, FG Sahib and Ropar. Rapid Antigen Testing has expanded to the entire State including at Private Hospitals/Clinics/Labs.

Rapid Antigen Testing shall reduce the turnaround time considerably and aid in quick diagnosis and management. If the result is positive, then it is taken as confirmed. However, if it is negative, then re-testing is done through TrueNat and RT-PCR.

Following categories shall be tested using Rapid Antigen Tests:
- Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) patients
- Two categories of symptomatic patients
- Three categories of asymptomatic patients

As on 18.09.2020
TrueNat Testing

Advantage of TrueNat Testing is that the testing time is only **60 minutes**. It is being used for emergency cases of COVID-19.

Total Capacity of TrueNat testing in Punjab is **2000**.

Private hospitals can send urgent samples for testing in government facilities for **INR 1500**. 1068 such samples have been tested.

As on 17.09.2020

There are **27 TrueNat Machines** operational at District Hospitals in Punjab. Total **18,232 tests done so far**, out of which **2611** were positive.
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

55 Lac+ downloads; Available on iOS AppStore and Android PlayStore.

As on 17.09.2020

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
Booking of Train Tickets
Plasma donor registration
**IT Initiatives [1/2]**

1. COVA App has **modules for sampling, patient line listing, contact tracing, containment zone, and bed management**

2. **Plasma donor registration** collaborated with DGR for testing and on boarding of portal/software through COVA App for registration of plasma volunteers.

3. **Video Conferencing Solutions** are being leveraged to facilitate Work-from-Home for the staff along with important webinars and VCs by the CM and other administrative staff.

4. **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.

5. Punjab has initiated a **mass awareness campaign** to educate and inform its citizens across all the channels (Radio, TV, Social Media, Print Media) about this pandemic.
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.
The first manufacturer of PPE in Punjab was approved on 27 March 2020. As on date there are 141 PPE kit manufacturers approved by Government of India.

Make in Punjab - Punjab has 4 BIS approved N-95 mask manufacturers.
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.

**Single Emergency Helpline for Anyone in Distress**

16,000 plus calls received per day (avg.)

**Ambulance Service for Medical Emergency**

7,000 plus calls received per day (avg.)

**Health Emergency and Home Isolation support**

4,000 plus calls received per day (avg.)

**Dial a Doctor (launched on 31 March 2020)**

1,700 plus calls received per day (avg.)

As on 18.09.2020
## Directives, Guidelines and Protocols Issued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Constitution of teams at Health Facilities</strong> for hassle-free and easy sampling for COVID-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Guidelines</strong> regarding contagion of COVID-19 in Child Care Institutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Guidelines</strong> regarding medical fitness for home isolation of asymptomatic/mild symptomatic patients and patients aged more than 60 or with co-morbidities and pregnant women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><strong>Guidelines and Checklists</strong> for Establishing and Operationalizing COVID Care Centres</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Guidelines</strong> regarding sanitizations of ambulances, oxygen cylinders, x-ray machines, and other equipment/ Hospital furniture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>Guidelines</strong> for infection prevention and control for isolation</td>
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</table>
Advisories Issued [1/5]

1. Updated Advisory on use of Air-Conditioning in Residential Commercial and Hospital settings
2. Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization while carrying out works under MNREGA
3. Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization of the Public or Private Sector Industries
4. Updated Advisory Hygiene and Sanitization of Office Spaces or Workplaces
5. Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization by the Plying Goods Vehicles and their Drivers
6. Advisory on Cleaning and Maintenance of Mobile Phones
7. Updated Advisory on Safe Farming Operations (Procurement and Marketing)
8. Updated Advisory on Safety of Food and other Essential Household Items
Advisories Issued [2/5]

9. Updated General and specific Advisory on Opening and Maintaining Cattle Fairs

10. Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization of Shops

11. Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization at Petrol Pumps

12. Advisory for the Special Care of Elderlies or Senior Citizens

13. Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization of Sewa Kendras and their Staff

14. Advisory of Socialization during the COVID-19 pandemic

15. Revised Advisory for Masks

16. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of State Transport Undertakings
Advisories Issued [3/5]

17. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Sewa Kendras and their Staff
18. Advisory for the Special Care of Elderlies/Senior Citizens
19. Advisory on Maintaining and Ensuring the Safety of Food and Other Essential Household Items
20. Advisory on Maintaining the Hygiene and Sanitization of Shops
21. Advisory for the People Involved in Frequent Interstate/Intrastate Movement
22. Advisory regarding Home Quarantine of Returnees from Within the Country
23. SOP regarding Returnees coming from Outside the Country
24. Advisory on Cleaning and Maintenance of Mobile Phones
Advisories Issued [4/5]

25. Advisory on Opening and Maintaining Cattle Fairs

26. Advisory on Maintaining the Hygiene and Sanitization of Barber Shops/Hair-cut Salons

27. Advisory for Hotel and Suitable Lodging Facility for Health Staff

28. Advisory on the Use of Air-Conditioning in Residential/Commercial/Hospital Settings

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

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

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

32. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization while Carrying-out Works Under MNREGA
Advisories Issued [5/5]

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

34. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization at Petrol Pumps

35. Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Plying Goods Vehicles and Drivers/Workers
COVID-19 Trainings Given

1. Operation FATEH:
   - Expert Group Trainings under the Chairmanship of Prof. K.K. Talwar, experts from AIIMS New Delhi, PGIMER Chandigarh, CMC and DMC Ludhiana
   - 5191 participants trained as on 11 September 2020

2. I-GOT Trainings:
   - Integrated Government Online Training on DIKSHA app for capacity building of frontline workers
   - Punjab placed at 2nd position currently
   - Course completed by 2,92,274 participants as on 24 August 2020

3. Anti-Stigma and Anti-Discrimination Campaign:
   - 439 participants as on 11 September 2020
COVID-19 Trainings Given

Physical Training:
- National ToT Batch on 6 March 2020
- 110 Master Trainers on 9 March 2020
- 6412 participants at the District Level
- 23,797 participants at the Block Level
- 227 Staff Members of Different Departments – Police, Social Security, Women and Child Development, Local Bodies and Agriculture

Online Training:
- 6812 MOs, Dental Doctors, SNs, AYUSH Doctors, RMOs, Pharmacists, LTs, etc.
- 343 NUHM Staff
- 546 Labor Room and SNCU Staff
- 125 House-Keeping and Sanitation Workers
- 91 participants from Prisons Department
Emergency measures to combat Coronavirus menace. Punjab Cabinet approves notification to set up Flu Corners in all Govt and Pvt hospitals

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

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

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

Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [1/14]

Emergency Measures

March 2

March 9

March 21

March 22

March 29

April 3

April 6

Social Security Relief

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
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [2/14]

- **Mandi Board Comm.**
  - April 7
  - 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

- **Exit Strategy TaskForce**
  - April 10
  - 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

- **Tackle Dom. Violence**
  - April 23
  - 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)

- **Group of Experts**
  - April 25
  - 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

**Testing Capacity**
- 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)

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

**Telemedicine**
- Telemedicine services in 300 Health and Wellness Centres to provide ‘Comprehensive Primary Health Services’ on door-steps of people in rural areas

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# April 7
- 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)

# April 10
- 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

# April 23
- 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)

# April 24
- 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

April 29

April 30

Compulsory Quarantine

April 30

May 4

Machinery Subsidy

May 5

May 10

Movement of Migrants

May 13

COVID Help Regn.

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

Child Rights in COVID

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

Compensation

Grant of ex-gratia compensation (Rs. 50 lakhs) to the dependant members/legal heirs of employees, who die in harness while on Government duty
Amid decline in daily count of new cases over past few days, Punjab Govt. announced replacement of strict curfew with lockdown till May 31.

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

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

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

Curfew replaced with Lockdown

No COVID-19 case during Procurement

Telemedicine Collaboration

Save Animals

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

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

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.
The COVID-19 Case Mortality Rate in Punjab is amongst the lowest at 1.3%, with majority of those fatalities resulting from co-morbidities.

Taking the state’s battle against COVID to the grassroots a month-long drive launched as part of Mission Fateh, to spread mass awareness about the pandemic.

Capital expenditure in essential sectors to be retained at Rs 5000 crore. No compromise on funding for all frontline departments.

In Lockdown 4.0, all 516 Sewa Kendra resume operation to facilitate seamless and timely delivery of public services.

The COVID-19 Case Mortality Rate in Punjab is amongst the lowest at 1.3%, with majority of those fatalities resulting from co-morbidities.

Sewa Kendras resume operation

Case Mortality Rate

Mission Fateh

Essential Sectors & Frontline Workers

Sewa Kendras resume operation

Case Mortality Rate

Mission Fateh

Essential Sectors & Frontline Workers

Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [6/14]

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Capital expenditure in essential sectors to be retained at Rs 5000 crore. No compromise on funding for all frontline departments.
New guidelines for curbs on weekends & gazetted holidays. No Inter-district movement except for e-pass holders on these days, only essentials shops to operate on all days of the week.

Revenue Department has allocated ₹300 Cr to various departments & DCs.

Punjab Cabinet approved comprehensive Public Grievance Redressal Policy to bring mechanisms of all departments under one umbrella within the ambit of Digital Punjab.

Stringent containment strategy under which 19 containment zones have been established in 8 districts containing population of about 25000, so far.

Punjab Cabinet approved the Right to Business Rules, 2020 for setting up MSME units on fast track.

Ghar Ghar Nigrani

Punjab launched app - 'Ghar Ghar Nigrani', to undertake house-to-house surveillance in an ongoing process, till elimination of pandemic.

Plasma Therapy

ICMR has given approval to the Government Medical College, Amritsar to treat the patients of COVID-19 with plasma therapy.

Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [7/14]
Punjab has constituted District Technical Committees headed by Civil Surgeon to take the immediate decisions at district level regarding COVID-19.

Campus Launches app 'Ghar Ghar Nigrani', to undertake house-to-house surveillance in an ongoing process, till elimination of pandemic.

Punjab launched app 'Ghar Ghar Nigrani', to undertake house-to-house surveillance in an ongoing process, till elimination of pandemic.

Two ‘Expert Advisory Committees’ under the overall guidance of Advisor, Health & Medical Education & Research Dr. KK Talwar to augment COVID care strategy.

Covid treatment rates of private hospitals finalised by Dr KK Talwar committee & approved by CM for mild, moderate, severe, very severe cases, inclusive of #PPE cost.

The Health & Family Welfare Department has set up separate Labour rooms in all district hospitals for the deliveries of pregnant women reported positive.

Rapid Antigen testing has initiated in 5 Districts in Punjab where 2365 rapid antigen tests conducted so far, 197 have been found positive & 2168 tested negative.

Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [8/14]
PSDM launched two online skill development programmes to meet challenges in the employment sector due COVID-19.

7 new automatic RNA extraction machines to be procured for viral testing labs at 3 Govt Medical Colleges in Patiala, Amritsar & Faridkot.

Detailed guidelines for shooting of films/music videos during Unlock-2 period in state, with restriction of 50 persons at the shooting venue.

A special drive across the state to enforce COVID-19 related protocols in buses launched by Transport Department & Sub Divisional Magistrates.

Medical Education and Research, Minister, Punjab Mr. O. P. Soni inaugurated state’s first plasma bank at Government Medical College/Rajindra Hospital, Patiala.

COVID-19 patients violating home isolation in Punjab will have to shell out ₹5000 as fine, as per the new guidelines.

To encourage investment in the state amid the COVID pandemic, relaxations for industry issued, including the extension of validity of statutory clearances without inspection.
In order to impart quality health treatment to every positive patient, Punjab has deputed 22 IAS, IFS and PCS Officers as COVID Patient Tracking Officers (CPTOs).

Dept. of Health & Family Welfare, Punjab has tied up with Dept. of Governance Reforms to communicate results to persons via SMS through COVA platform.

Health & Family Welfare Department imparted special training to 70 Gynaecologist for providing tele-medicine consultations to pregnant women.

About 53,000 Anganwari workers and helpers across state are playing leading role in 'Mission Fateh', awareness campaign on Corona Prevention initiated by Punjab Government.

**COVID Patient Tracking Officers**

July 30

**Test Results via SMS**

July 30

**Pregnant Women and COVID-19**

August 1

**Free of Cost Plasma**

Plasma to be provided free of cost by Punjab Government to all COVID-19 patients in need.

**Directions to Private Hospitals**

Punjab has directed all Private Hospitals/Nursing Home/ Clinics for tertiary care (HDU & ICU) under Epidemic Disease Act 1897 (COVID-19 Regulation 2020).

**SHGs and COVID-19**

6 lakh masks prepared through SHGs & 10 lakh more to be made. SHGs get ₹30 lakh for making masks and will get additional ₹50 lakh.

**Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [10/14]**
The Group of Experts chaired by Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia has submitted the first draft of its Report on Post-COVID Economic Strategy on time.

Punjab has set up 4 new viral testing labs to enhance total daily testing capacity of 4000 tests during September 2020 with 1000 tests per day per lab in state.

To ensure efficacious functioning & seamless coordination amid COVID-19, Punjab Mandi Board launched in-house Video Conferencing Mobile App ‘QVIC’.

Punjab has converted 6 Jails into Special Jails for new inmates. In addition, 2 more jails in Gurdaspur & Malerkotla have been declared as Level-1 Covid Care Centers.

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Punjab has set up 4 new viral testing labs to enhance total daily testing capacity of 4000 tests during September 2020 with 1000 tests per day per lab in state.
Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) launched as a one-stop web portal to address grievances of citizens in a time-bound manner.

Punjab Biotechnology Incubator (PBTI) to boost life sciences & biotech sector in Punjab. COVID-19 testing lab also established in PBTI in record time with capacity of 1000 tests per day.

Section 144 CrPC imposed in Punjab till 31.08.2020 to prohibit all gatherings of more than 5 persons, other than marriage and bhog ceremonies.

100% testing in micro containment and containment zones using Rapid Antigen Tests to keep further spread of COVID-19 under check.

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Curfew Extension
9pm to 5am curfew in all cities; weekend ‘stay at home’ in Ludhiana, Patiala & Jalandhar; COVID monitors for marriage palaces/restaurants/offices & frontline duty for corona conquerors.

Additional Restrictions in Urban Areas
In the wake of rising COVID-19 cases, additional restrictions imposed within municipal limits of all the cities of Punjab from 18.08.2020 to till further orders.

Weekend Lockdown & Daily Night Curfew
Weekend lockdown, daily night curfew from 7pm to 5am in all cities/towns from 21.08.2020 as emergency measures are announced.

Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [12/14]
Health Dept Ludhiana initiated mobile testing drive in the city; exclusive vans with special teams have been arranged which will test people at their doorstep.

Positive patients who have been clinically assigned as very mild/pre-symptomatic/asymptomatic case by the treating medical officer can easily opt for home isolation in Punjab.

Punjab introduces free walk-in testing for COVID-19 at government hospitals and mobile vans.

Health Minister Mr. Balbir Singh Sidhu launches awareness campaign to remove stigma & discrimination associated with COVID-19

Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [13/14]

Mobile Testing Vans
- August 26
- August 31

Home Isolation norms eased in Punjab
- September 2
- September 3

Restrictions in Urban Areas extended
- September 2
- September 3
- September 4

Free Walk-In COVID-19 Testing
- September 3

COVID-19 Testing Rates in Private Labs
- September 3

No Home Isolation Posters at entrances
- September 4

Punjab to continue with restrictions in urban areas, including weekend lockdown in all the 167 municipal towns of the state amid increasing COVID-19 cases.

Rates of COVID-19 tests reduced to facilitate common people. Now even private labs would not be able to charge more than rates fixed by government.

No more affixing of posters at entrance of COVID home isolation patients in Punjab as earlier orders have been rescinded to mitigate social isolation and stigma.
‘Digital Parent Margdarshak Program’ launched to allay stress of Anganwadi children and their parents stuck at home during these perilous times of COVID-19 pandemic.

Private hospitals/clinics/labs to conduct Rapid Antigen Testing for after empanelment. Private labs to strictly maintain the confidentiality of patient data.

Oximeters to be made available to all citizens at an affordable cost of ₹514 through approved vendors in every district amid the spiralling cases of COVID.

Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [14/14]

Digital Parent Margdarshak Program
September 5

Rapid Antigen Testing in Private Facilities
September 8

Affordable Oxymeters
September 12

Relaxations in Urban Areas
September 7

Unlock-4
September 9

Non-essential shops can open on Saturdays. Hotels & restaurants to stay open till 9 PM on all 7 days. Night curfew from 9.30 PM to 5 AM.

No curfew on Saturdays as Punjab issues guidelines to be implemented from 09.09.2020 to 30.09.2020. Curfew to remain imposed only on Sundays in all 167 municipal towns.
Thank You