

COVID -19 Information Bulletin

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Background

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. This new virus and disease were unknown before the outbreak began in Wuhan, China, in December 2019. Covid-19 pandemic is severely affecting all of our families, our businesses, our communities and our way of life casting a long shadow over a much-anticipated mild recovery in the Indian economy in fiscal 2021. This information bulletin is a compilation of latest insights on the impact of Covid-19 across different businesses and sectors and how companies are responding to this. This will help researchers in making informed decision.

Measures / Best Practices Adopted by Industries

National

[Coal India develops sanitising chamber for mine workers](#)

State-owned CIL has developed a sanitising chamber for disinfecting its mine workers and containing the spread of the deadly coronavirus that has wreaked havoc across the world.

[National Aluminium Company Ltd \(NALCO\) supports development of 200 bed exclusive COVID-19 Hospital](#)

Showing commitment and solidarity with the home State in the fight against COVID 19 pandemic, National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), the navratna CPSE, under Ministry of Mines, Government of India, has come forward to fund an exclusive 200 bedded COVID 19 hospital at Nabarangpur, Odisha.

[Infosys Ltd ensuring Employee Well-being and Business Continuity during the outbreak](#)

In the light of the rapid spread of corona virus, Infosys Ltd is constantly monitoring the situation, following applicable government directives and ensuring regular communication with its employees across the world. It has put in place several measures -- including increased precautions at its facilities, travel advisories, remote working where feasible, and a dedicated helpdesk to ensure employee safety and business continuity.

[HCL Technologies Ltd invoke Business Continuity Plan and Risk Management Framework to minimize the impact on its employees and clients](#)

HCL Technologies Ltd invoked its Business Continuity Plan and Risk Management Framework to minimize the impact on its employees and clients. The company is actively engaged with its clients and has executed the client-specific and HCL internal operations-centric Business Continuity Plan which ensures continuity in delivering to its client and employee commitments.

International Best Practices

[FMCG companies launch special insurance schemes for 'frontline' workers](#)

Leading FMCG companies such as Nestle India, Godrej Consumers Products Ltd and Dabur are providing special insurance covers to their 'frontline' workforce, including those of distributors, who are engaged in supply and distribution of their products during the coronavirus pandemic.

The companies have tailored special schemes in collaboration with many insurance firms to keep people involved in its supply chain motivated so as to ensure supply and availability of their products in the market during the health crisis.

Impact of Covid-19 on Economy -Sector wise

CRISIL Ratings analysed the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on corporate across 35 sectors, accounting for a total debt of Rs 23 lakh crore in its ratings roundup report for the second-half of this fiscal. Around 15 sectors, with around Rs 10 lakh crore of rated debt, were classified as high resilience sectors and another 15 sectors, with Rs 12 lakh crore of rated debt, will have moderate resilience to the slowdown in economic activity in the coming weeks.

Read more at: <https://www.bloomberquint.com/business/covid-19-impact-sectors-where-rating-agencies-see-elevated-credit-risk>

Sectors With Elevated Credit Risk	
Industry	Risk Factors
	Will see long tail of crisis
Automobiles	Two main clusters shut
	Three low-cost carriers may need an additional Rs 3500 crore
Hotels	Occupancies have crashed
	Interest costs to rise
	Consumer sentiments may remain muted
Airlines & Airport Operators	Cash flows have stopped
	Cancellations at record high
	Availability of labour post lockdown
Real Estate	Sales & collections to moderate
	Cash flow crunch, financing difficulties
	Muted demand

Steel	Auto, real estate stress to reduce demand Shortage of contract workers
Energy	Reduced demand from industry Lower collections, delayed payments from DISCOMs Execution risk for under-construction renewable projects
Banks & NBFCs	Asset quality stress Collection efficiency to fall Market financing environment tougher

Source: www.bloomberquint.com

Further as per a report by Ficci, the Indian economy has been experiencing significant slowdown over the past few quarters. In the third quarter of the current fiscal, the economy grew at a six-year low rate of 4.7%. Investment and consumption demand had been languishing and a number of stimulus measures have been taken to bring back the economy on a growth path. There was a strong hope of recovery in the last quarter of the current fiscal. However, the new coronavirus epidemic has made the recovery extremely difficult in the near to medium term. The outbreak has presented fresh challenges for the Indian economy now, causing severe disruptive impact on both demand and supply side elements which has the potential to derail India's growth story. Read more at <http://ficci.in/spdocument/23195/Impact-of-COVID-19-on-Indian-Economy-FICCI-2003.pdf>

Government Initiatives

- [Government sets up 723 COVID-19 hospitals across country](#)
Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar has said that government has set up 723 COVID-19 hospitals across the country.
- [Govt launches a training module for management of Covid-19 named 'Integrated Govt. Online training' \(iGOT\) portal on DIKSHA platform of HRD Ministry](#)
It aims to enhance capacity building of front line workers to handle the pandemic efficiently, the ministry said in a statement.
- [Twitter handle by The Ministry of Information and Braodcasting](#)
The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on set up a dedicated Twitter handle for sharing news and updates about the novel coronavirus. The account is named **#IndiaFightsCorona** and uses the handle **@CovidnewsbyMIB**.
- [The Invest India Business Immunity Platform](#)
The Invest India Business Immunity Platform is designed as a comprehensive resource to help businesses and investors get real-time updates on India's active response to COVID-19

(Coronavirus). This dynamic and constantly updating platform keeps a regular track on developments in the control of the virus, provides the latest information on various central and state government initiatives, gives access to special provisions, and answers and resolves queries through emails and on WhatsApp.

- [AarogyaSetu, a COVID19 tracker App, informs you if you come in close proximity with positive cases](#)

The Government launched a mobile app developed in public-private partnership to bring the people of India together in a resolute fight against COVID-19.

- [World Bank approves USD 1 billion Emergency Fund for India to help tackle Corona virus](#)

The World Bank has approved one billion US Dollars Emergency Fund for India to help it tackle the Corona virus pandemic, which has claimed 56 lives and infected 2,301 people in the country.

- [Coronavirus could trigger biggest fall in carbon emissions since WW2](#)

Rob Jackson, who chairs the Global Carbon Project, which produces widely-watched annual emissions estimates, said carbon output could fall by more than 5% year-on-year - the first dip since a 1.4% reduction after the 2008 financial crisis.

- [C-DOT and Telecom Service Providers develop COVID Quarantine Alert System](#)

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has encouraged state government agencies to use the Covid Quarantine Alert system. A Standard Operating Procedure for location based monitoring of potential cases from the telecom network data has been established. Large number of requests from state agencies are already coming in from Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Haryana, and Bihar.

Immunity Promoting Measures

Ministry of AYUSH recommends the following self-care guidelines for preventive health measures and boosting immunity with special reference to respiratory health. These are supported by Ayurvedic literature and scientific publications.

General Measures

1. Drink warm water throughout the day.
2. Daily practice of Yogasana, Pranayama and meditation for at least 30 minutes as advised by Ministry of AYUSH (#YOGAatHome #StayHome #StaySafe)
3. Spices like Haldi (Turmeric), Jeera (Cumin), Dhaniya (Coriander) and Lahsun (Garlic) are recommended in cooking.

Ayurvedic Immunity Promoting Measures

1. Take Chyavanprash 10gm (1tsf) in the morning. Diabetics should take sugar free Chyavanprash.
2. Drink herbal tea / decoction (Kadha) made from Tulsi (Basil), Dalchini (Cinnamon), Kalimirch (Black pepper), Shunthi (Dry Ginger) and Munakka (Raisin) - once or twice a day. Add jaggery (natural sugar) and / or fresh lemon juice to your taste, if needed.
3. Golden Milk- Half tea spoon Haldi (turmeric) powder in 150 ml hot milk - once or twice a day.

Simple Ayurvedic Procedures

1. **Nasal application** - Apply sesame oil / coconut oil or Ghee in both the nostrils (PratimarshNasya) in morning and evening.
2. **Oil pulling therapy**- Take 1 table spoon sesame or coconut oil in mouth. Do not drink, Swish in the mouth for 2 to 3 minutes and spit it off followed by warm water rinse. This can be done once or twice a day.

During dry cough / sore throat

1. Steam inhalation with fresh Pudina (Mint) leaves or Ajwain (Caraway seeds) can be practiced once in a day.
2. Lavang (Clove) powder mixed with natural sugar / honey can be taken 2-3 times a day in case of cough or throat irritation.
3. These measures generally treat normal dry cough and sore throat. However, it is best to consult doctors if these symptoms persist.

Source: <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/ImmunityBoostingAYUSHAdvisory.pdf>

Free Open Access Resources in COVID-19 Situation

- National Digital Library (<https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in>)
- National Knowledge Network(<http://nkn.gov.in/en/>)
- NPTEL (National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (<https://nptel.ac.in>))
- Virtual Labs (<http://www.vlab.co.in/>)
- Directory of Open Access Books (<https://doabooks.org/>)
- Directory of Open Access Journals (<https://doaj.org/>)
- Open Knowledge Repository – World Bank (<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/>)
- Oxford Open (https://academic.oup.com/journals/pages/open_access)
- Cambridge University Press (<https://www.cambridge.org/core/what-we-publish/open-access>)
- ILOSTAT (<https://ilostat.ilo.org/>)
- Project Euclid (https://www.projecteuclid.org/librarians/lib_oa)
- AidData(<https://www.aiddata.org/>)
- Springer Open Journals (<https://www.springeropen.com/journals-a-z>)
- Taylor & Francis Open Access (<https://www.tandfonline.com/openaccess>)
- Open Access Thesis & Dissertations (<https://oatd.org/>)
- Legal Information (<http://www.commonlii.org/resources/221.html>)
- PubMed Central (PMC) (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/>)
- High Wire (<https://www.highwirepress.com/>)
- AGRIS (<http://agris.fao.org/agris-search/index.do>)
- Southern Connecticut State University (<https://libguides.southernct.edu/openaccess/>)
- LibriVox – Audio Books (<https://librivox.org/>)

COVID-19 News on Energy

- Covid-19 impact: Demand, pricing pressures to weigh on Coal India
Business Standard 24/04/2020
- Indian refiners export diesel to China as Beijing recovers from Covid-19
Business Standard 23/04/2020
- Covid-19 impact: India crude oil production plummets 5.5% in March
Business Standard 24/04/2020
- Covid-19 may punch a big hole in petro-tax tank of Centre, States
The Hindu Business Line 27/04/2020
- Falling oil prices amid coronavirus pandemic: What it means for India and other players
The Economic Times 26/04/2020
- Coronavirus wake up call for solar industry, need to set up more mfg facilities in India: Tata Power Solar official
*Deccan Herald (Online edition)*24/04/2020

- How Covid-19 spoilt the oil bonanza - A K Bhattacharya
[Business Standard 22/04/2020](#)
 - Bharat Petroleum divestment process begins amid coronavirus lockdown
[Business Standard 21/04/2020](#)
 - Covid-19: Lockdown leads to fall in power demand
[The Hindu Business Line 01/04/2020](#)
 - *Payment of power bills in times of coronavirus force majeure*
[The Financial Express 01/04/2020](#)
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