

From page-1-Covid Maximum City also saw the opening of the first dedicated facility to treat coronavirus patients in Seven Hills Hospital.

08:32 pm Mar 24PM urges state governments to increase focus on health care

I have requested the state governments to prioritise and focus on health services and health care: PM

08:30 pm Mar 24Centre approves Rs 15,000 crore for battling coronavirus. For the treatment of Corona-infected patients and to strengthen the health sector, the central government has approved Rs 15,000 crore, PM Narendra Modi said.

With these funds, testing facilities, personal protective equipment, isolation and ICU beds, ventilators and other important facilities will be manufactured.

08:15 pm Mar 24Stay at home, Stay at home, do just one thing, stay at home: PM Modi

Saving the life of each and every Indian is the first priority for me: PM Modi

08:08 pm Mar 24 From 12 midnight today, the entire country will go under complete lockdown, announces PM Narendra Modi

08:03 pm Mar 24PM Modi begins his address to the nation

PM Narendra Modi thanks the countrymen for their participation in Sunday's 'Janata Curfew' 24Pondicherry government announces Corona relief of Rs 2000 to all ration cards

Announcing this evening, Chief Minister V Narayanasamy said that the administration has taken this decision in response to the plea made by elected representatives. The amount has been allocated and would be deposited in the bank accounts of 3.44 lakhs ration cardholders, said the Chief minister. It will have a financial burden of Rs 68 crores to the government.

07:50 pm Mar 24PM interacts with print media heads over COVID-19

Prime Minister said, "Media has played a praiseworthy role in disseminating information to every nook and cranny of this nation. The network of media is pan-India and spread across cities and villages. This makes the media all

the more significant in fighting this challenge and spreading correct information about it at micro level."

07:30 pm Mar 24Parents want schools to remain closed, curtail summer vacation to reduce academic loss. With the number of coronavirus cases rising in the country, several parents want schools to not reopen soon and have suggested that academic loss if any can be reduced by curtailing the summer vacation. Several schools, which are already offering classes through digital modes of learning, say a decision in this regard will be taken only after March 31 once a review of the situation is done and also if the lockdown is curtailed.

If people are moving out for essentials, be gentle with them and ask them not to move out without any reason. I am asking police that we are not stopping people from living, just changing the lifestyle a bit: Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray.

07:16 pm Mar 24Have grain stock to last for 6 months: Maharashtra minister Chhagan Bhujbal

"Shops and outlets selling food grains, vegetables, meat, fish and medical shops have been excluded from the lockdown," the minister said, appealing people to cooperate with the government. "Mathadi workers (head loaders who work in wholesale vegetable and grain markets) and farmers are also humans and their safety is also important. Don't crowd the markets. Cooperate with the police," the minister said.

Out of 41 cases detected and confirmed in Karnataka so far 6 cases are transit passengers of Kerala who have landed in airports and being treated in Karnataka. The details of their itinerary after arriving in Karnataka will be provided. Batkal patients resident of Uttara Kannada is hospitalized in Dakshina Kannada and considered against Dakshina Kannada.

07:05 pm Mar 24Assam youth booked for not reporting arrival from abroad

An FIR was lodged against a youth in Assam on Tuesday for not reporting his arrival from abroad to the police or health

officials. The Hailakandi district administration filed the FIR under Section 188 of the IPC, official sources said. Departmental action for immediate suspension was also being drawn against the youth's father who is a government employee for concealing information.

06:49 pm Mar 24Chennai: Two lakh rush to native places in buses as social distancing goes for a toss

More than 2 lakh people left Chennai in buses from Koyambedu and Tambaram to various places in the state from Monday evening to 2 pm on Tuesday. After the announcement of the lockdown, people thronged to the Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus (CMBT) to catch a bus to their native places.

06:46 pm Mar 24Tokyo Olympics postponed to 2021 due to coronavirus pandemic: IOC

The 2020 Tokyo Olympics have been postponed to no later than the summer of 2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic sweeping the globe, the International Olympic Committee announced Tuesday. The Games were scheduled for July 24-August 9, but after telephone discussions between IOC president Thomas Bach and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, a historic joint decision was taken for the first postponement of an Olympics in peacetime.

06:43 pm Mar 24Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to give one month salary to PM relief fund

06:40 pm Mar 24Cabinet secretary asks states to immediately earmark hospitals to deal with COVID-19 cases. Cabinet secretary Rajiv Gauba on Tuesday asked state governments to immediately identify and earmark hospitals to deal with the coronavirus outbreak. In a letter to chief secretaries of all the states, Gauba also said it is absolutely essential that surveillance and contact tracing of all positive cases is taken up and no suspected or high risk person is left out.

06:37 pm Mar 24Another death in Mumbai where India's first hospital for coronavirus patients opens. Another coronavirus

death has been reported in Maharashtra, which has already seen a total of 107 positive cases, on Tuesday. The victim, a 65-year-old man, had returned from the UAE on March 15. He went to Ahmedabad and came back to Mumbai on March 20. He died on March 23 in Kasturba hospital. He was suffering from high-blood pressure and was a diabetic too.

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IOC President Thomas Bach has agreed "100%" to a proposal of postponing the Tokyo Olympics for about one year until 2021 because of the coronavirus outbreak, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Tuesday.

We have decided to give Rs 5000 each to all construction workers as their livelihood has been affected. We are also increasing the number of night shelters in the city: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal says, "There are many daily wage earners in Delhi who stay at rented homes. If some tenants are not in a condition to pay their rents to landlords, they can be given some concession for 2-3 months." #COVID19

06:01 pm Mar 242000 stranded migrant workers crammed in Chennai halls

Uncertainty still looms over Tamil Nadu as about 2000 stranded migrant workers have been crammed in Chennai's community halls after the train services have been cancelled. The city corporation has been moving these workers, mostly from West Bengal, from the railway stations to the halls.

Mathematical modeling done by ICMR suggests that entry screening of travellers with symptoms suggestive of COVID19 can delay the introduction of the virus into the community by three days to three weeks. 118 govt laboratories included in ICMR network of #COVID19 testing.

The network has capacity to test 12000 samples a day. 22 private laboratory chains, with about 15,500 collection

centres, have been registered with ICMR till today.

The empiric use of Hydroxychloroquine for prophylaxis of SARS-Cov-2 infection is recommended only for asymptomatic healthcare workers involved in the care of suspected or confirmed cases of COVID19 and asymptomatic household contacts of laboratory-confirmed cases

05:04 pm Mar 24Following two fresh cases, entire UP placed under lockdown till March 27

With the tally rising, CM Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday announced a total lockdown in Uttar Pradesh till Friday March 27. 17 of the 75 districts were under lockdown since Sunday evening.

04:57 pm Mar 24Housing sales to take hit

Housing brokerage firm Anarock on Tuesday said housing sales will be impacted and completion of ongoing real estate projects will be delayed due to the lockdown across the country in view of spread of coronavirus disease. The consultant said that more than 15.62 lakh units (launched between 2013 till 2019) are under construction in the top 7 cities -- Delhi-NCR, Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Pune.

04:50 pm Mar 24Reliance sets up India's 1st COVID-19 dedicated hospital, to continue paying all its contract workers

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) on Monday said that it has set up India's first COVID-19 dedicated hospital in Mumbai that includes a negative pressure room that helps in preventing cross-contamination and helps control infection. "Sir HN Reliance Foundation Hospital in collaboration with the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), has set up a dedicated 100 bedded COVID-19 centre at Seven Hills Hospital, Mumbai for patients who test positive for COVID-19," RIL said in an official statement.

04:46 pm Mar 24CM Yogi releases first instalment of Rs 1,000 each for 20 lakh daily wagers

Keeping in view the rising number of coronavirus cases in Uttar Pradesh and its

debilitating effect on the unorganized sector, CM Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday launched the 'Shramik Bharan-Poshan Yojana' and transferred the first instalment of Rs 1,000 in the accounts of more than 20 lakh daily wage labourers through Direct Beneficiary Transaction.

04:42 pm Mar 246 million masks missing, Germany shipment lost in Kenya as battle to curb coronavirus toughens. A German army shipment of six million face masks needed to protect against the novel coronavirus has vanished in Kenya, the defence ministry in Berlin confirmed Tuesday.

"We are trying to find out what happened" to the massive order of protective equipment meeting the FFP2 standard for protection against particles and aerosols, a spokeswoman said.

Maharashtra: Pune based Mylab Discovery Solutions Pvt Ltd has developed India's first indigenous #COVID19 testing kit that has been approved by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). A single kit costs Rs 80,000 & can test 100 patients.

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04:17 pm Mar 24Major announcements from FM presser

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, on Tuesday, announced a slew of measures to reduce the stress on coronavirus-hit India Inc and India. The Covid-19 death toll in India currently stands at 10 with nearly 500 confirmed cases of the infection. The total number of COVID-19 cases rose to 528, including 475 active cases.

04:13 pm Mar 24One month special pay for medical staff: EPS. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami on Tuesday announced one-month special pay for them. Announcing this in the Assembly, Palaniswami said the doctors, nurses and other professional staff are working with dedication day and night without fearing for their lives.

Palaniswami said the medical staff working in the isolation wards where Coronavirus infected patients are being treated will be

paid a month's salary as special pay in recognition of their dedication.

04:03 pm Mar 24Fell asleep and missed flight, UAE-based Indian stranded at Dubai airport amid coronavirus outbreak. Dozing off at the airport in Dubai left Arun Singh, a Pune resident, stranded at its Terminal 3 as he missed his flight back home and now he cannot even go to his UAE resident as the country refused entry to residency visa holders as a precaution to limit the spread of the coronavirus, according to a media report.

03:56 pm Mar 24Railways to release full salary to contractual workers during suspension of service. In an order issued on Tuesday, the railways has said that due to prevailing coronavirus situation in India and the stoppage of trains, several contractual staff engaged in on-board housekeeping service, sanitation, pantry car and commercial activities have been stranded and have to compulsorily stay at other places, while others have to be in readiness to attend the duties at a short notice.

On a lighter note if anyone wants tips on surviving quarantine or a lock down I have months of experience at my disposal, perhaps a blog is in order.

03:36 pm Mar 2421 out of 29 cases in Punjab got infected from 70-year-old who succumbed to coronavirus. Punjab on Tuesday reported six more coronavirus positive people taking the state total to 29. Of these 21 people got the infectious virus from the 70-year-old person who died of COVID-19 on March 18.

A granthi in the village gurudwara, the septuagenarian had come back to India after a two-week-long trip to Germany and Italy. Before his death, he had performed path and distributed prasad to the devotees in the village.

Bollywood: Demand for new releases expected to go up post coronavirus. With the coronavirus epidemic hitting the entertainment sector hard, the demand of new films is expected to grow so that the industry can return on the same path after the lockdown phase.

According to a study by Kotak Institutional Equities Research, CY2019 was the second consecutive year of good box office performance. Bollywood churned out 17 over Rs1 billion grossers, nearly doubling the count over CY2017-19. Crackdown on criminals, or be compassionate? We can do both. While the city is on a lockdown owing to recent events, we are doing our bit. #Janasnehipolice #ArrestCorona

03:29 pm Mar 24112 cases filed against individuals for violating prohibitory orders in Mumbai

Mumbai Police register 112 cases under section 188 of IPC against individuals, pan stalls, hotels, hawkers & illegal transport for violating prohibitory orders

03:12 pm Mar 24PM Modi to hold video conferencing with healthcare providers

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to hold a video conference with healthcare providers association of various states on ways to deal with the novel coronavirus outbreak. Sources in the government said the video conference would take place on Tuesday at 5 p.m.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday said no new cases of coronavirus have come up in Delhi in last 24 hours while five patients have been cured of the deadly virus. He said despite this the biggest challenge is to not let the situation go out of control in the city.

03:05 pm Mar 24Debit card withdrawals, irrespective of the bank, made free for next three months

Debit card withdrawals from ATMs won't be charged for the next three months. These withdrawals can be made from any ATMs: FM

03:00 pm Mar 24Two more tested positive for coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir. JammuAndKashmir 2 more cases reported positive in Srinagar. One has confirmed travel history outside India. Full details regarding.

02:58 pm Mar 24Andhra Pradesh SSC exams postponed as state locks down to contain coronavirus

The Andhra Pradesh State government on Tuesday announced postponement of the See page-8