



Department of Governance Reforms and
Public Grievances
Government of Punjab

PUNJAB COVID-19 RESPONSE

Initiatives and Policy Measures

Prepared by Governance Fellows

COVID19 Case Load

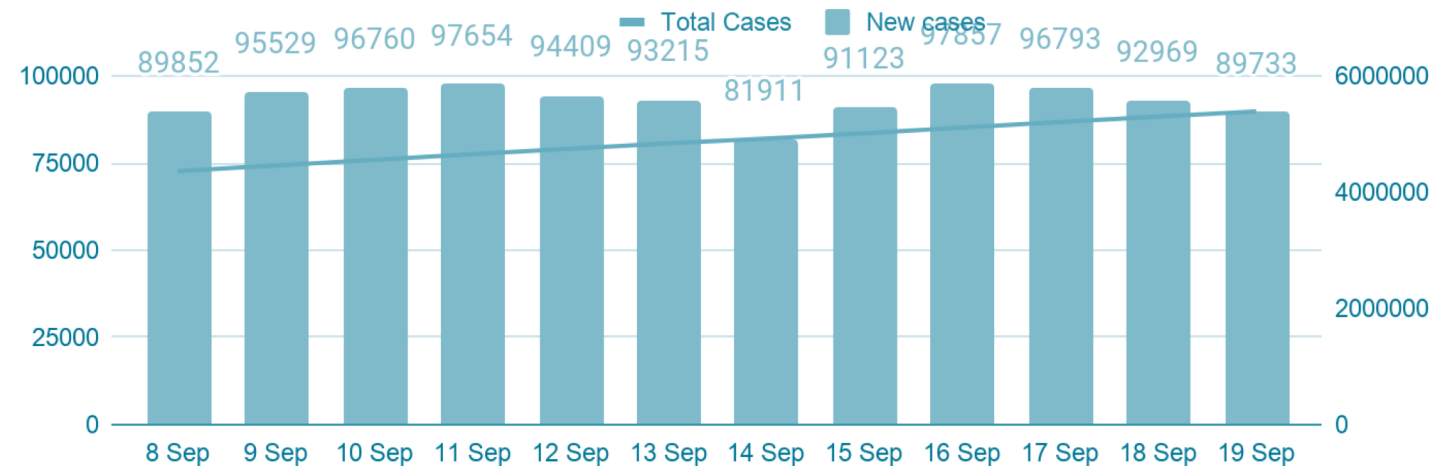
India COVID19 Status

	World	India	Punjab
Total Cases	30,893,554	5,392,706	95,529
New Cases	343,717	87,050	2,696
Total Death	959,326	86,704	2,757
New Death	6,297	1,079	49
% Case Fatality	3.1%	1.6%	2.9%
Total Recovered	22,498,434	4,295,885	70,373
% Recovery	73%	80%	74%
Active Cases	7,435,794	1,010,117	22,399
% Active	24%	19%	23%
# Cases per Mn pop	3,862	2,996	3,184
# Deaths per Mn pop	119.9	48.2	91.9

State level COVID19 Status

State	Total	Cured	Death	Active	Recovery Rate	Case Fatality Rate
Maharashtra	1,188,015	857,933	32,216	297,866	72%	2.7%
Andhra Pradesh	617,776	530,711	5,302	81,763	86%	0.9%
Tamil Nadu	536,477	481,273	8,751	46,453	90%	1.6%
Karnataka	511,346	404,841	7,922	98,583	79%	1.5%
Uttar Pradesh	348,517	276,690	4,953	66,874	79%	1.4%
Delhi	242,899	205,890	4,945	32,064	85%	2.0%
West Bengal	221,960	193,014	4,298	24,648	87%	1.9%
Odisha	175,550	141,657	744	33,149	81%	0.4%
Telangana	169,169	137,508	1,025	30,636	81%	0.6%
Bihar	166,987	152,956	861	13,170	92%	0.5%
Assam	155,453	125,540	548	29,365	81%	0.4%
Kerala	131,027	92,947	520	37,560	71%	0.4%
Gujarat	121,930	102,671	3,303	15,956	84%	2.7%
Rajasthan	113,124	93,805	1,322	17,997	83%	1.2%
Haryana	108,952	86,150	1,120	21,682	79%	1.0%
Madhya Pradesh	103,065	79,158	1,943	21,964	77%	1.9%
Punjab	95,529	70,373	2,757	22,399	74%	2.9%
Chhattisgarh	81,617	44,392	645	36,580	54%	0.8%
Other	384,930	262,768	4,174	117,988	68%	1.1%
Total India	5,392,706	4,295,885	86,704	1,009,360	80%	1.6%

India Caseload Trend



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

5 **Relief for Migrant Workers Committee**

6 **Goods Transport Committee**

7 **COVID Care Centre Committee**

8 **Committee on Augmenting Human Resources and Capacity Building**

9 **Committee on upgradation of Health Sector Infrastructure**

10 **Tele-Counselling Services Committee**

11 **Food Grain Procurement Management Committee**

12 **Expenditure Appraisal Committee**

13 **Data Analysis Group**

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

3

Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) started for early detection and management of COVID-19 infections. 2,51,417 **RAT** samples collected so far.

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.

SOME IMPORTANT DECISIONS

6

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**. The Group has submitted first draft of the report for further discussion.

7

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

8

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.

9

Punjab Government took a decision to not put stickers in front of houses of COVID positive cases in order to de-stigmatising

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

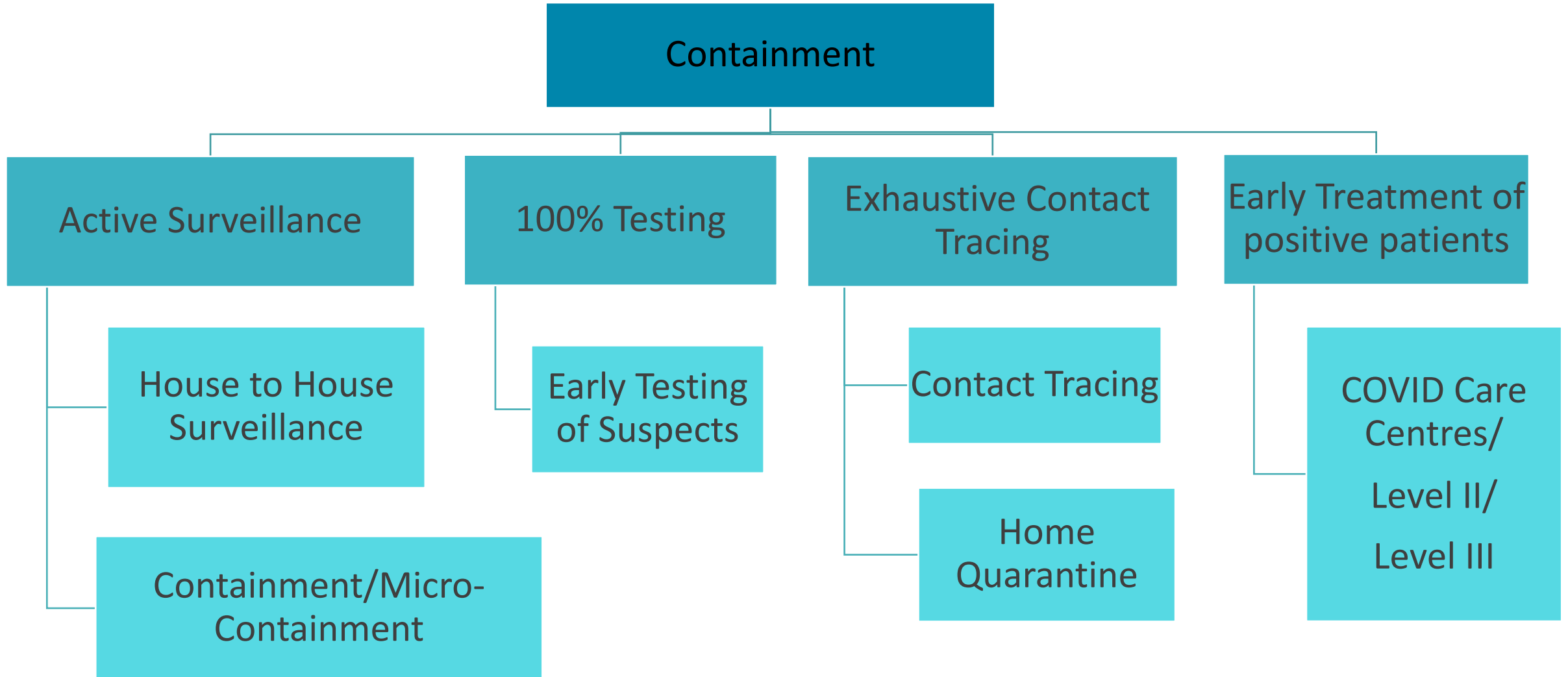
REGULAR SURVEILLANCE FOR EARLY DETECTION

- 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 & Micro-containment Zones - Activities

1 **Defining area of operation** and applying strict perimeter control.

2 **Active search of cases:** early isolation, contact listing and tracking, quarantine and follow up of contacts.

3 **Testing** all suspect cases, symptomatic contacts, asymptomatic direct and high-risk contacts of a confirmed case and ILI/SARI cases.

4 **Isolating** all suspect/confirmed cases and providing medical care.

5 **Motivating for 100% testing** of population especially elderly and persons with co morbidities.

6 **Implementing Social distancing measures and creating awareness** on hand hygiene, respiratory etiquettes and sanitation.

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.**

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.

Flu Corners

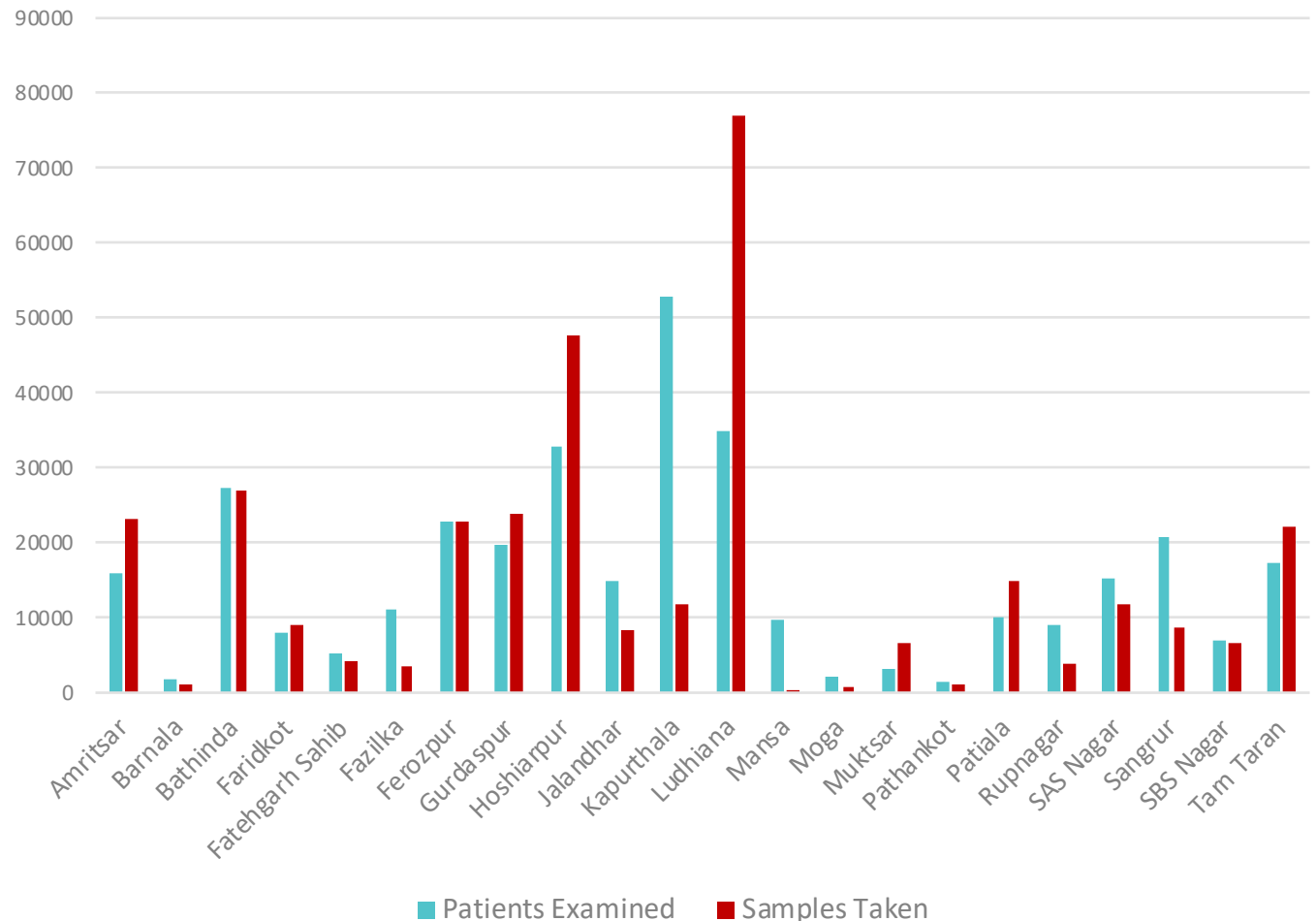
Flu corners are **set up in Hospitals to screen all suspected cases** of respiratory tract infections or cases presenting symptoms similar to those of coronavirus.

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).

Flu Corner Report from 15/04/2020 to 12/09/2020



LOK SAANJHEDAARI



The **‘Lok Saanjhedaari’ 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.



MISSION FATEH

Mission Fateh is the effort of the people of Punjab to defeat the pandemic in the face of overwhelming odds. It is a Mission of the people, by the people and for the people.

Punjab is creating mass awareness about:

- **Wearing masks**
- **Washing hands**
- **Maintaining social distancing**
- **Taking care of the elderly**
- **Remaining vigilant about entry of outsiders in the locality**
- **Use of COVA App to track patients of the virus and maintaining a safe distance from them**
- **Importance of Home Quarantine**
- **Symptoms of the flu and action thereafter**
- **Restrictions during Lockdown 5.0 and penalties/fines in case of violations**
- **Community mobilization to jointly fight against the pandemic**
- **Emphasizing that the threat of the virus has not diminished, rather it has become more menacing**

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
3. Gold Winners – 200, Silver Winners – 460 and Bronze Winners - 1592

As on 16.09.2020

COVID-19 Treatment Facilities

LEVEL 1



COVID CARE CENTRES

- Asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic cases*
- **12,962 beds in the state of readiness.**
- **7088 beds operationalized.**

LEVEL 2



COVID HEALTH CENTRES

- Mild to moderately symptomatic cases
- **5369 beds (with oxygen and without oxygen) in Government facilities**

LEVEL 3



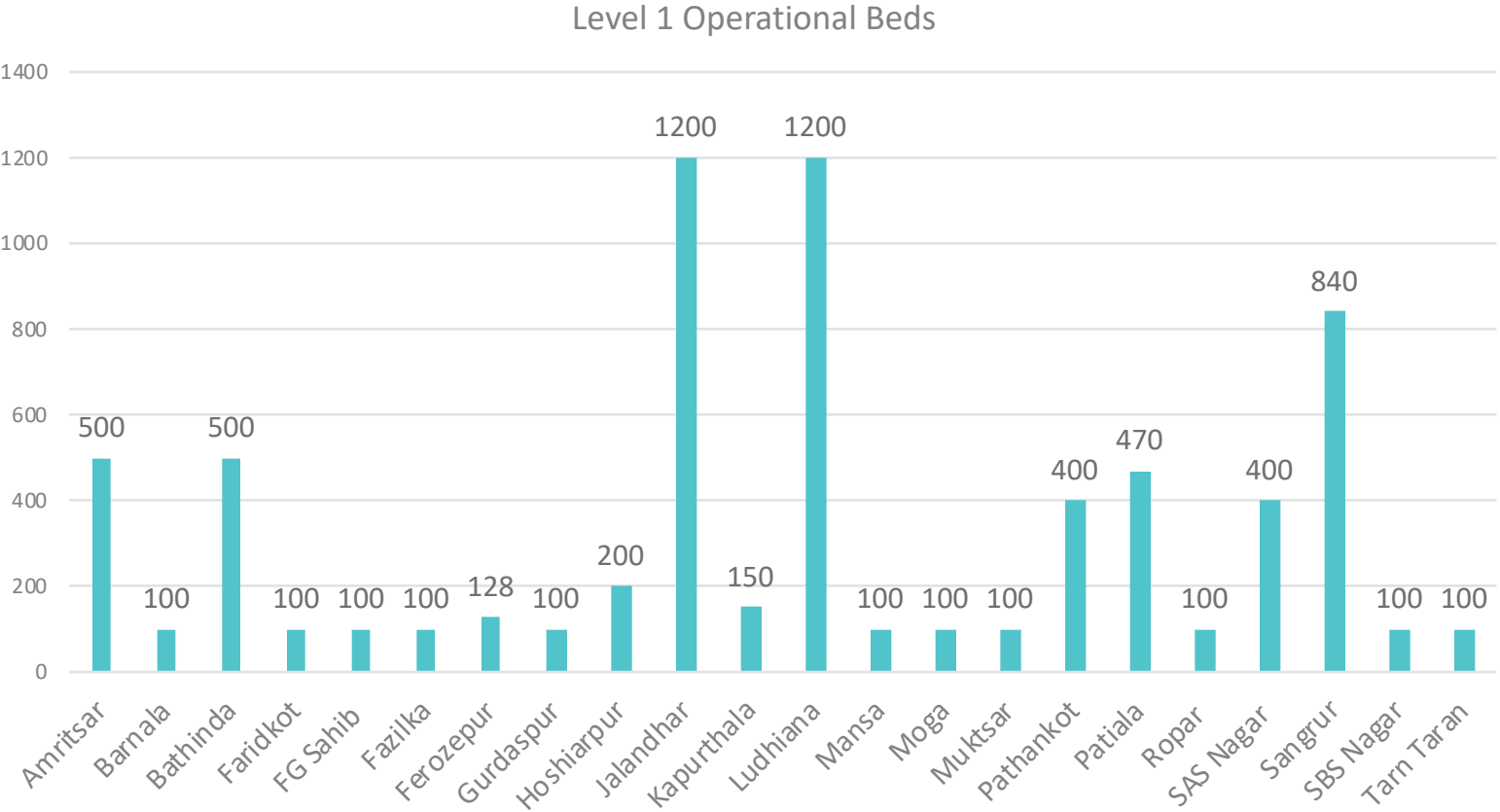
COVID HOSPITALS

- Severely symptomatic and Critical Care patients
- At present, there are **325 level 3 beds (invasive ventilator and without ventilator) in Government facilities**

*Home Isolation is also allowed for asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic cases.

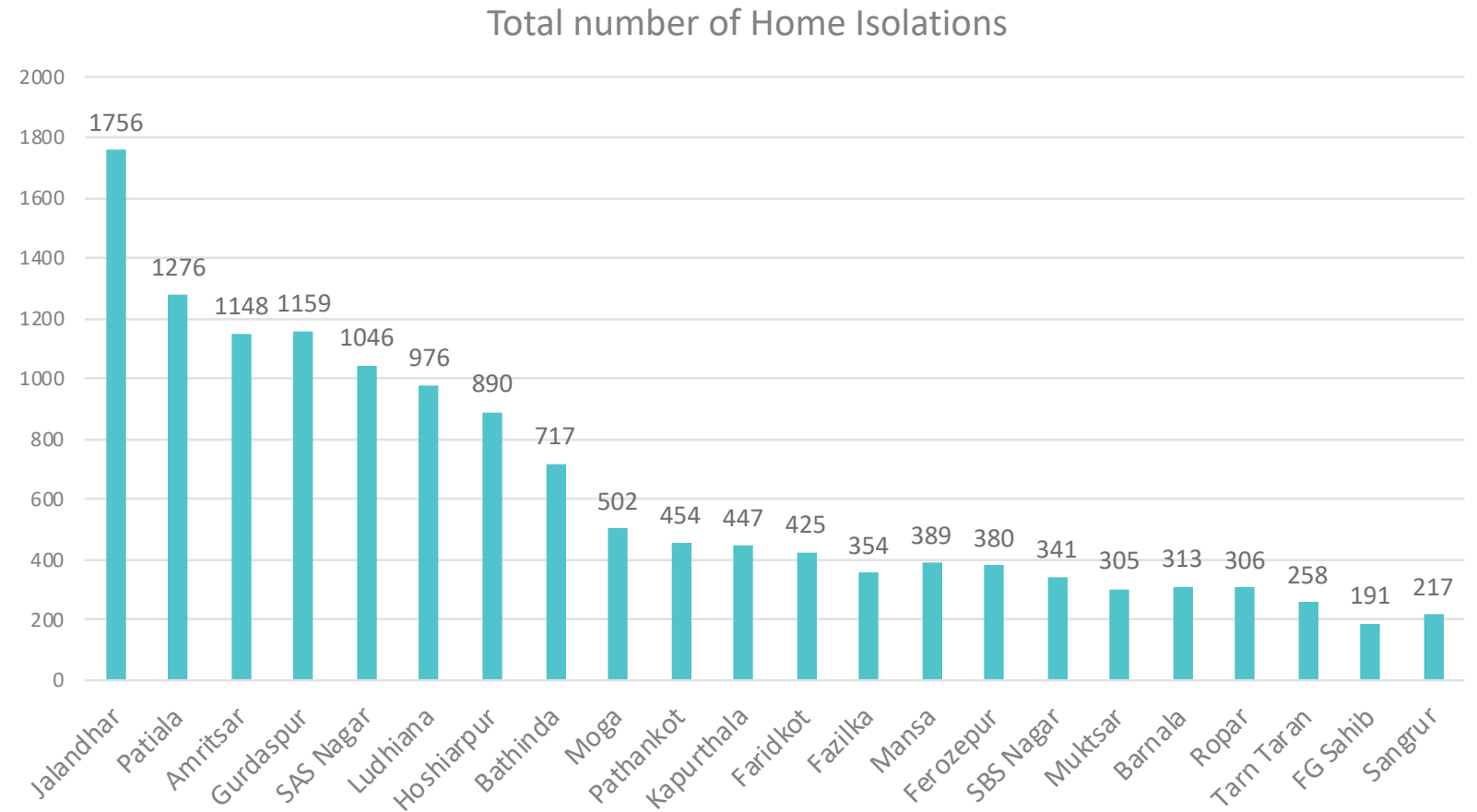
COVID Care Centers

7088 Beds
operationalized in
CCCs



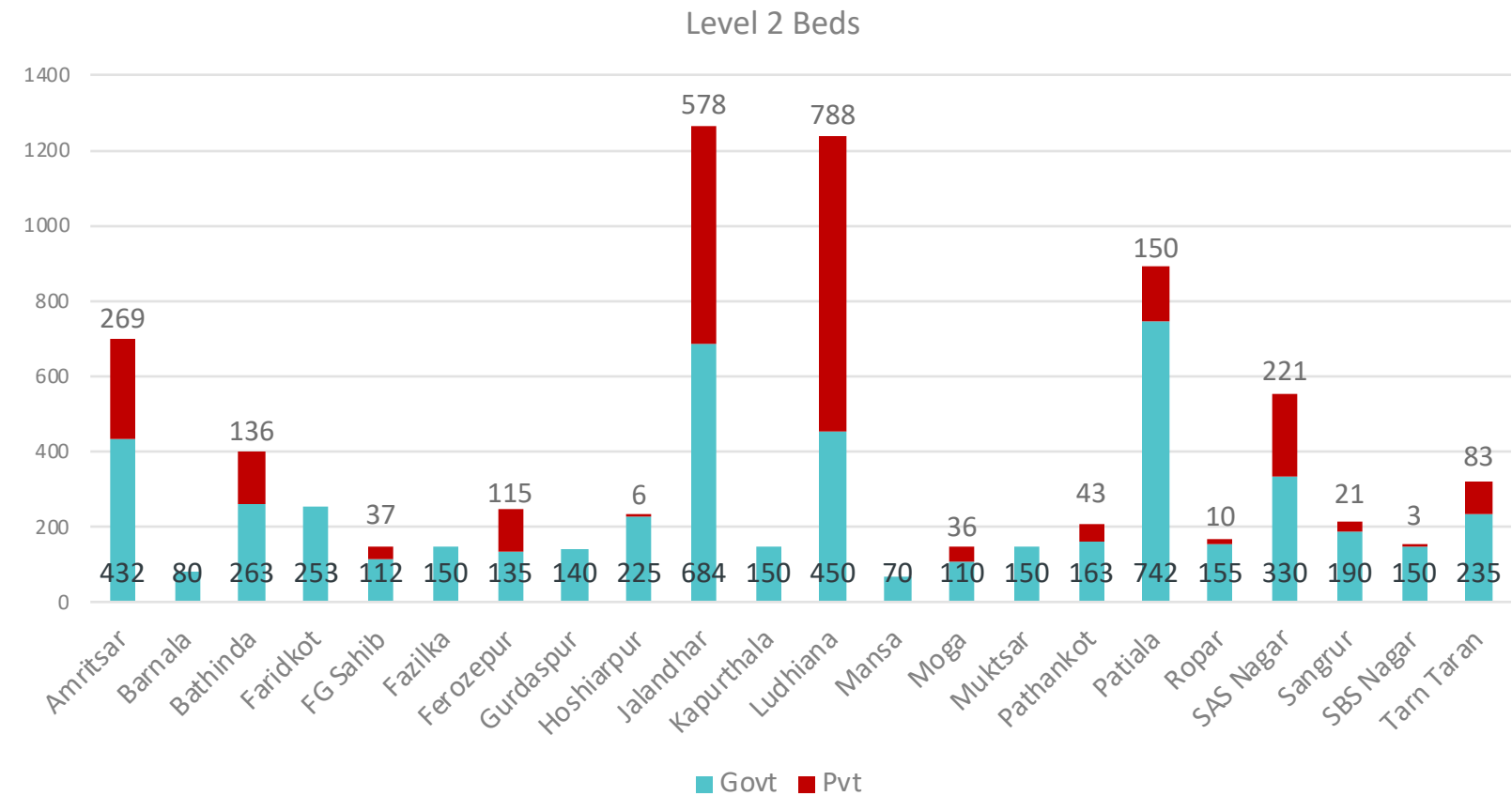
Home Isolation

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.



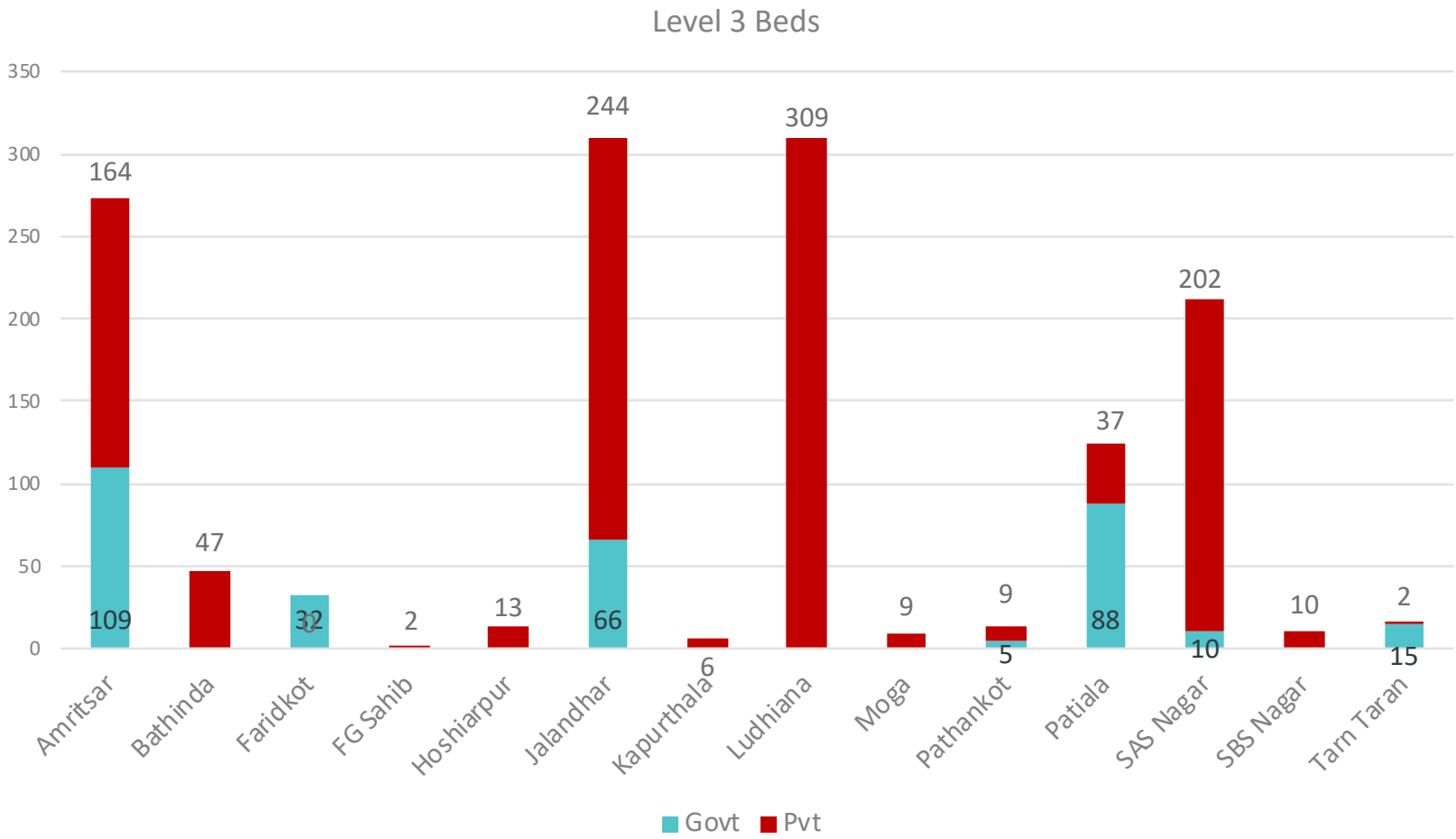
COVID Health Centres

Level-II are hospital beds with oxygen supply. Total number of beds is **7865**



COVID Hospitals

At present, the level 3 bed strength in Punjab is a total of **1379**



Testing Facilities – RT PCR

9 Government Facilities

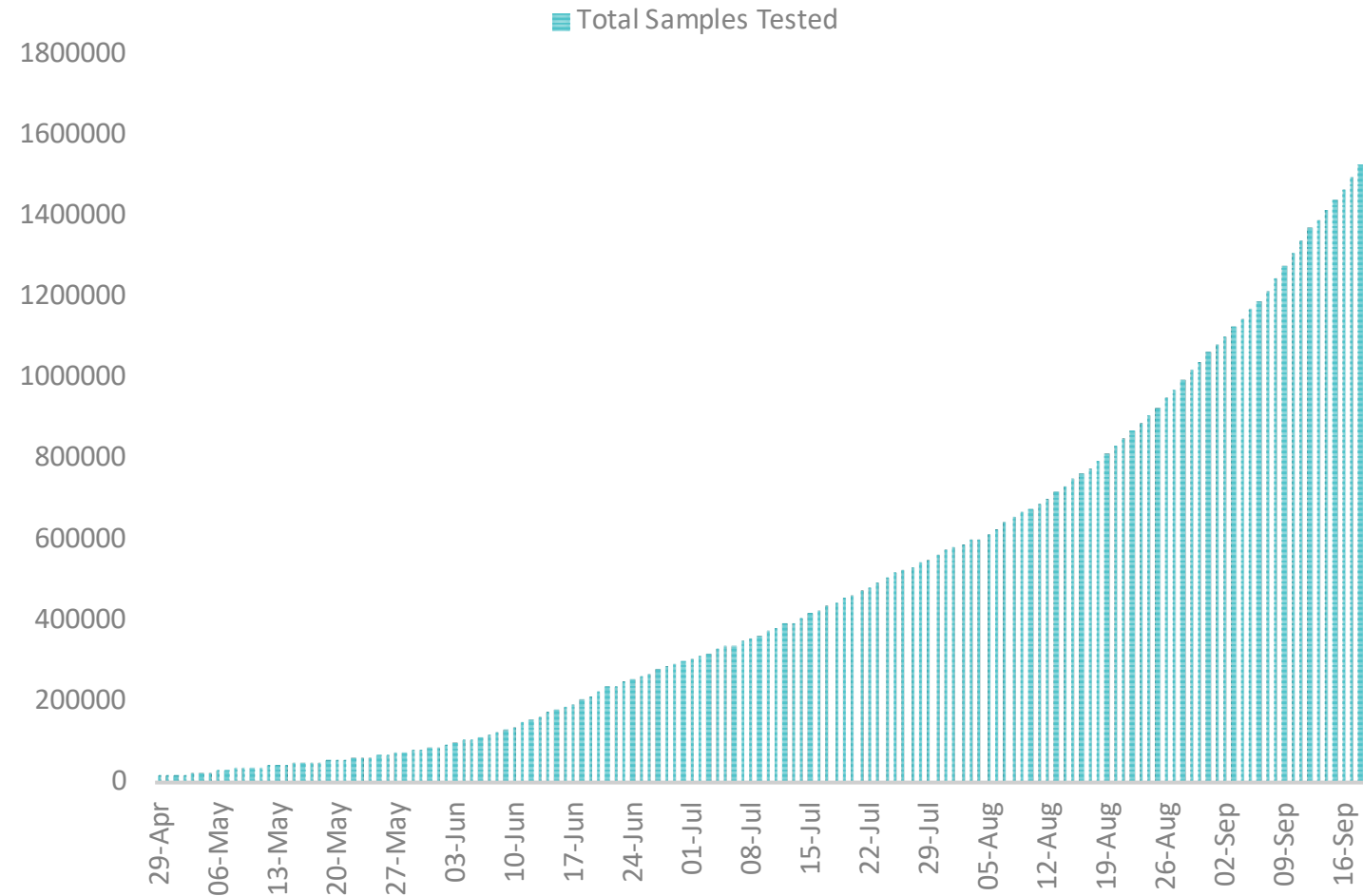
- GMC Amritsar (Capacity - 5500)
- GMC Patiala (Capacity - 5500)
- BFUHS Faridkot (Capacity - 5500)
- GADVASU, Ludhiana (Capacity - 750)
- RDDDL, Jalandhar (Capacity - 150)
- Forensic Science Lab, Mohali (Capacity - 100)
- Punjab Biotech Incubator, Mohali (Capacity - 250)
- PGI Chandigarh (Capacity -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

76 Private Facilities approved by ICMR for testing in Punjab.

As on 18.09.2020

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**.



Rapid Antigen Testing

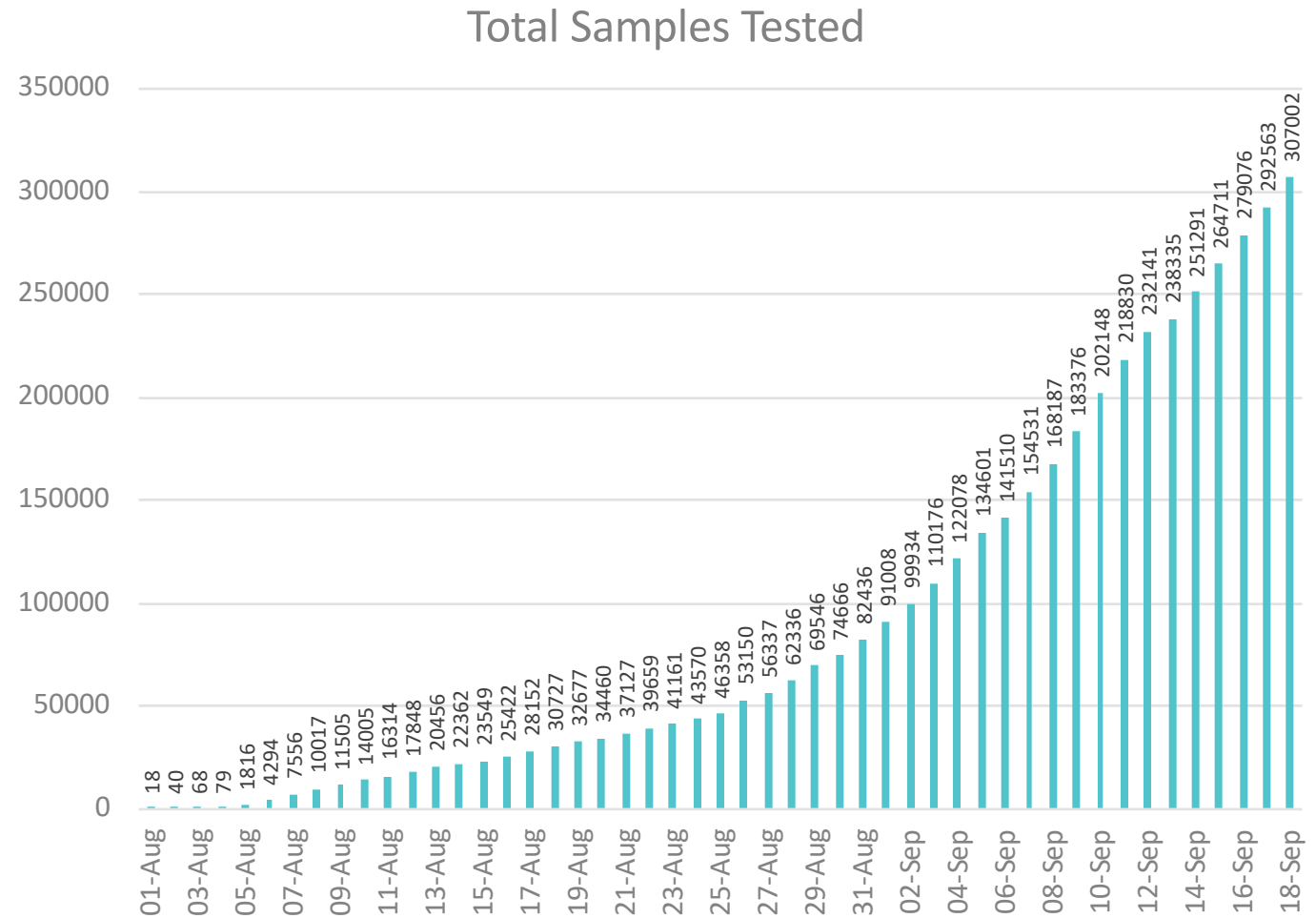
Rapid Antigen Testing shall **reduce the turnaround time** considerably and aid in quick diagnosis and management. If the result is positive, then it is taken as confirmed. However, if it is negative, then re-testing is done through TrueNat and RT-PCR.

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

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.**



TrueNat Testing

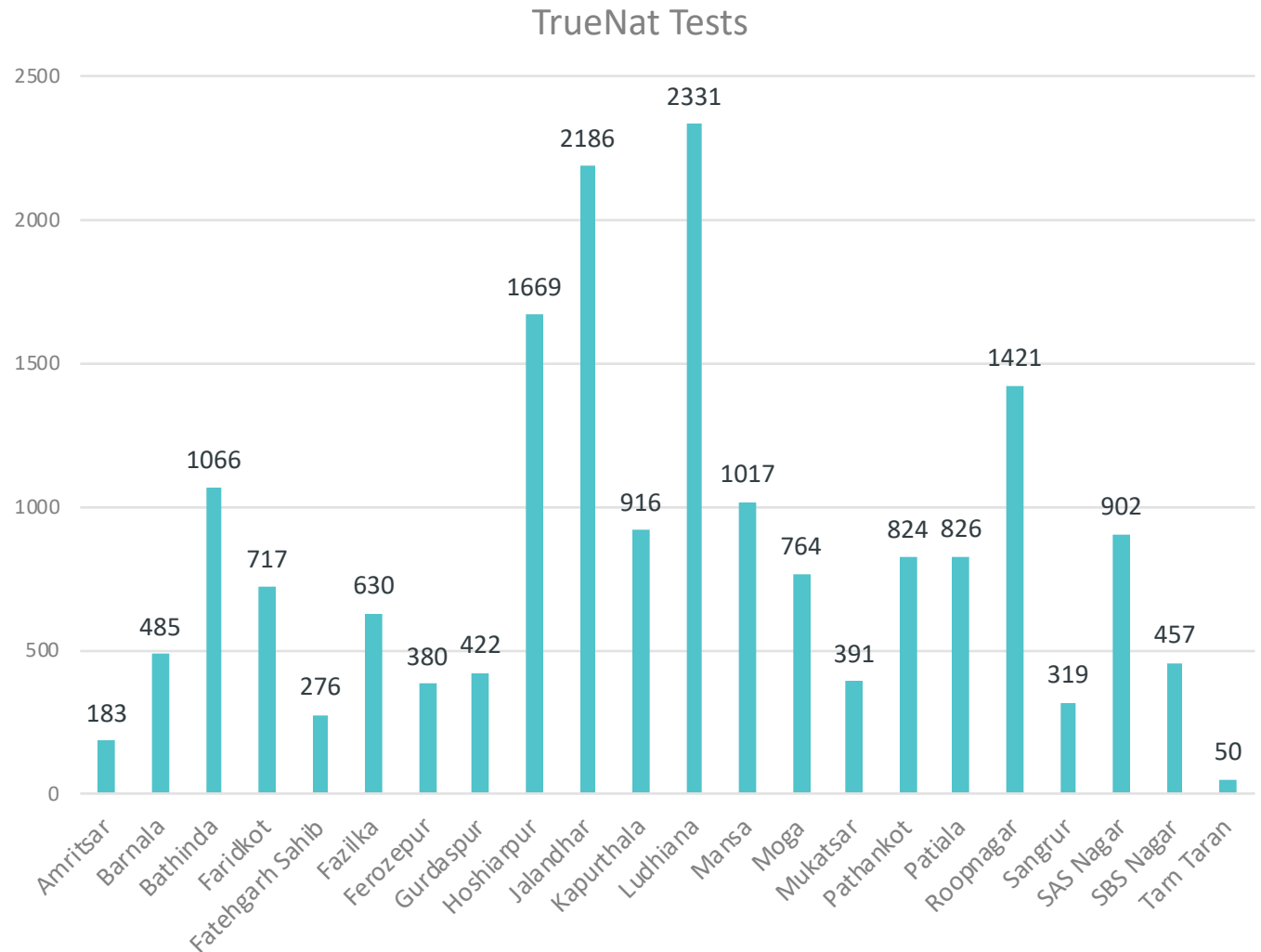
Advantage of TrueNat Testing is that the testing time is only **60 minutes**. It is being used for emergency cases of COVID 19.

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.



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.

IT Initiatives [2/2]

6

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.

7

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.

8

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

9

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.

10

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.

Other Actions

1

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.

2

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

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.



112

Single Emergency Helpline for Anyone in Distress

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



108

Ambulance Service for Medical Emergency

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



104

Health Emergency and Home Isolation support

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



1800

Dial a Doctor (launched on 31 March 2020)

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

Directives, Guidelines and Protocols Issued

1

Constitution of teams at Health Facilities for hassle-free and easy sampling for COVID-19

2

Guidelines regarding contagion of COVID-19 in Child Care Institutions

3

Guidelines regarding medical fitness for home isolation of asymptomatic/mild symptomatic patients and patients aged more than 60 or with co-morbidities and pregnant women

4

Guidelines and Checklists for Establishing and Operationalizing COVID Care Centres

5

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

6

Guidelines for infection prevention and control for isolation

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

4

Physical Training:

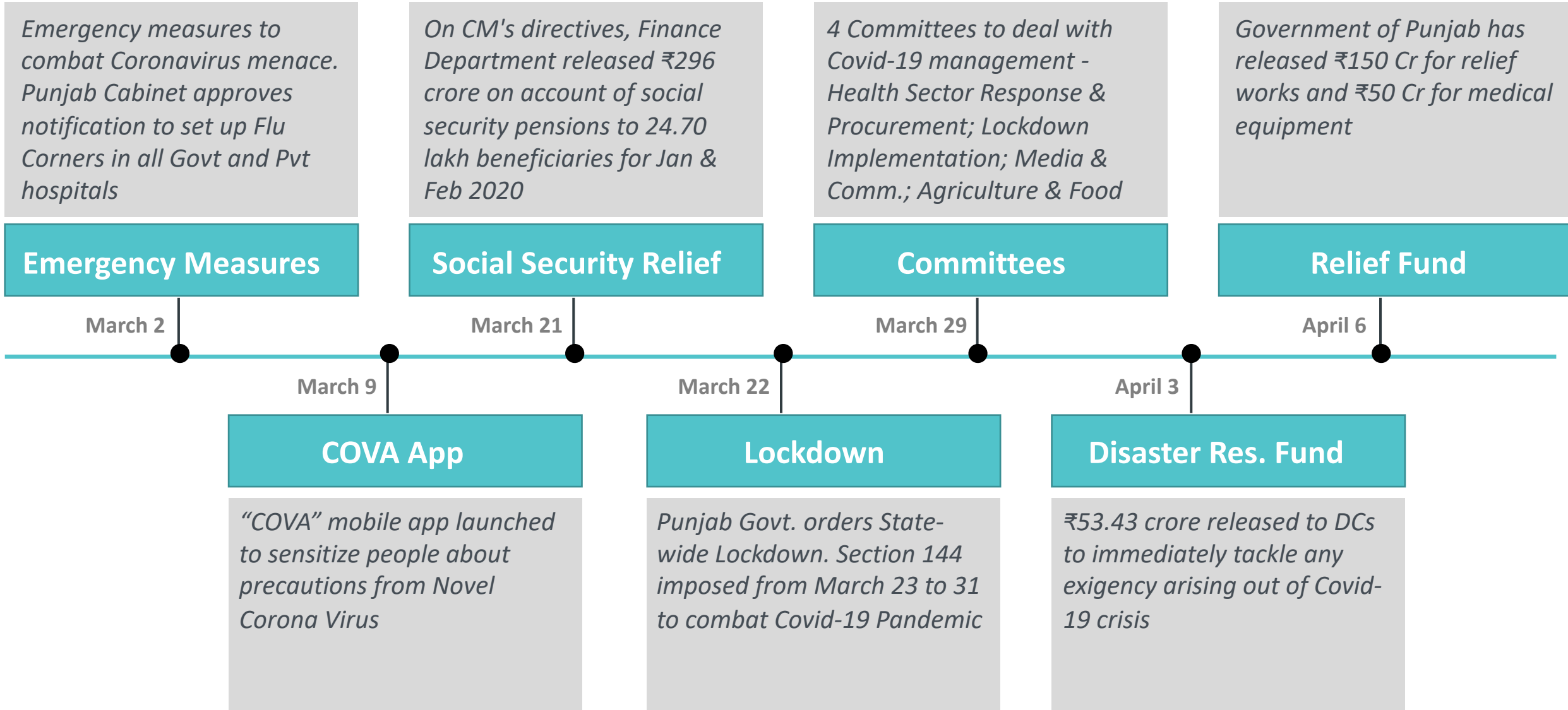
- **National ToT Batch on 6 March 2020**
- **110 Master Trainers on 9 March 2020**
- **6412 participants at the District Level**
- **23,797 participants at the Block Level**
- **227 Staff Members of Different Departments – Police, Social Security, Women and Child Development, Local Bodies and Agriculture**

5

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**

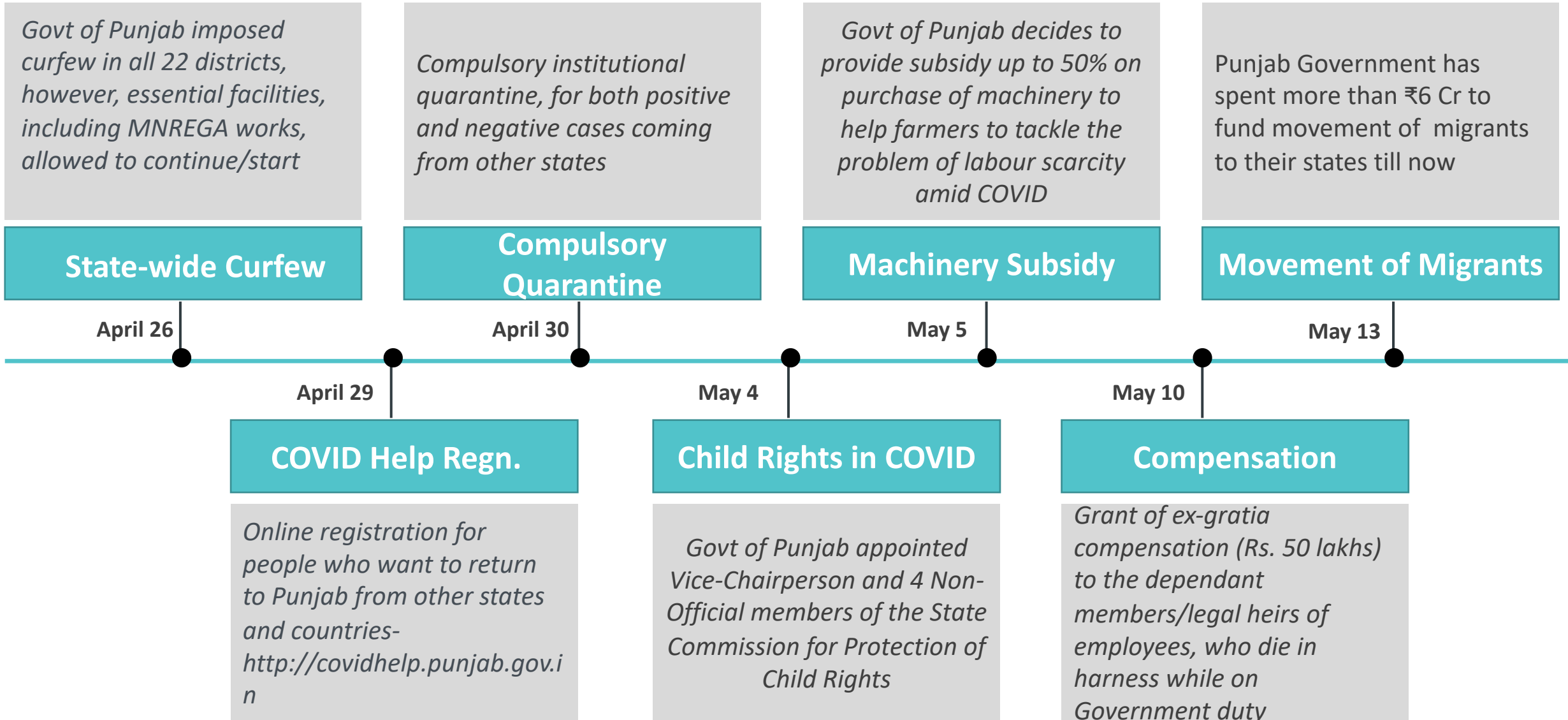
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [1/14]



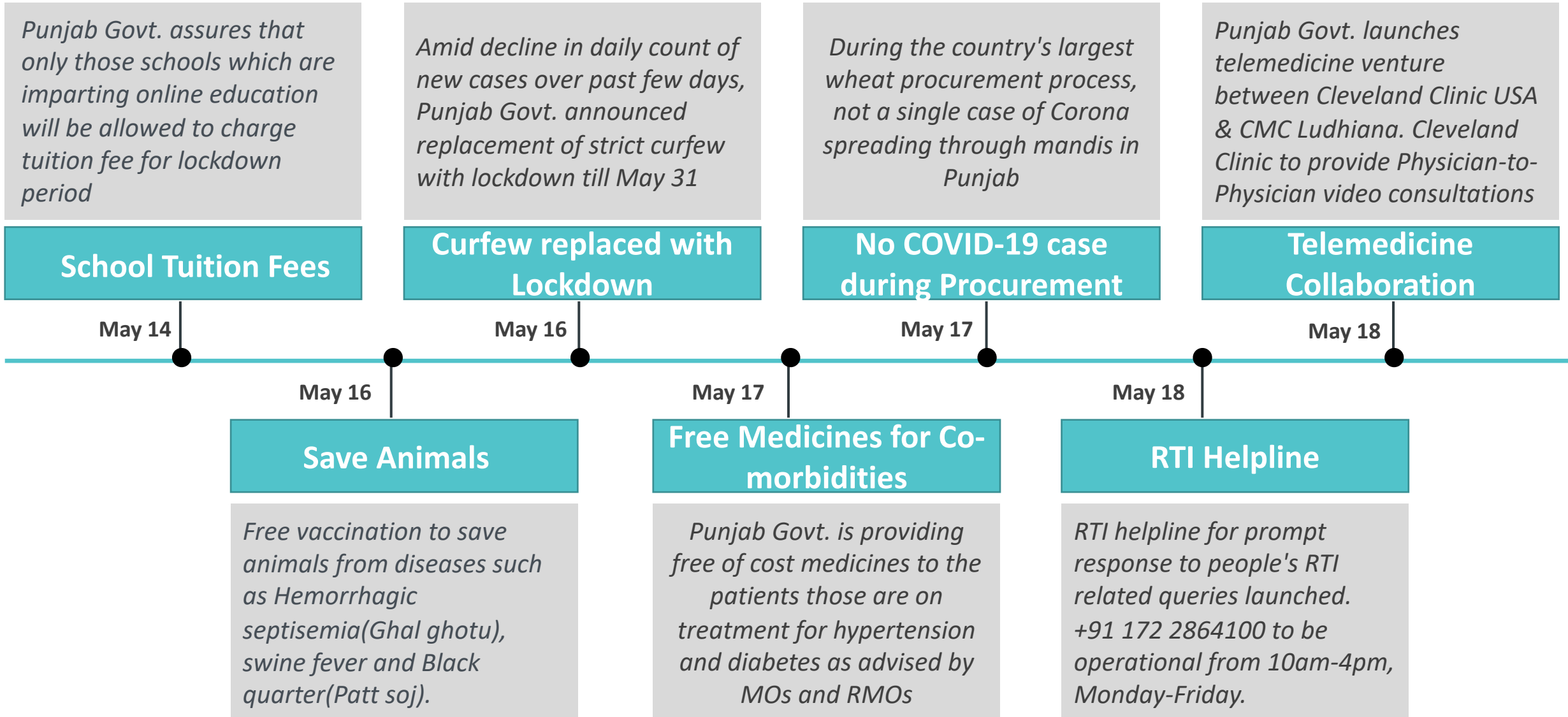
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [2/14]



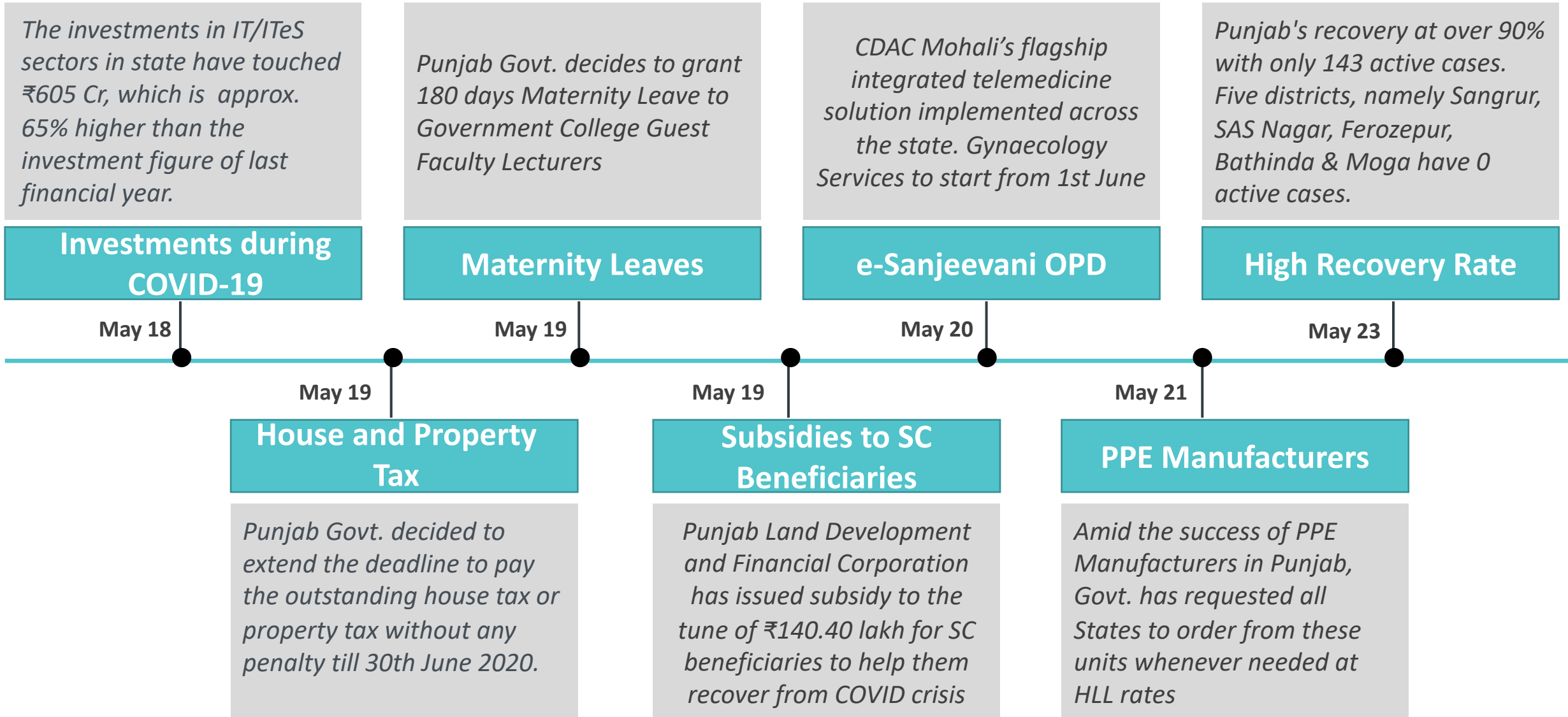
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [3/14]



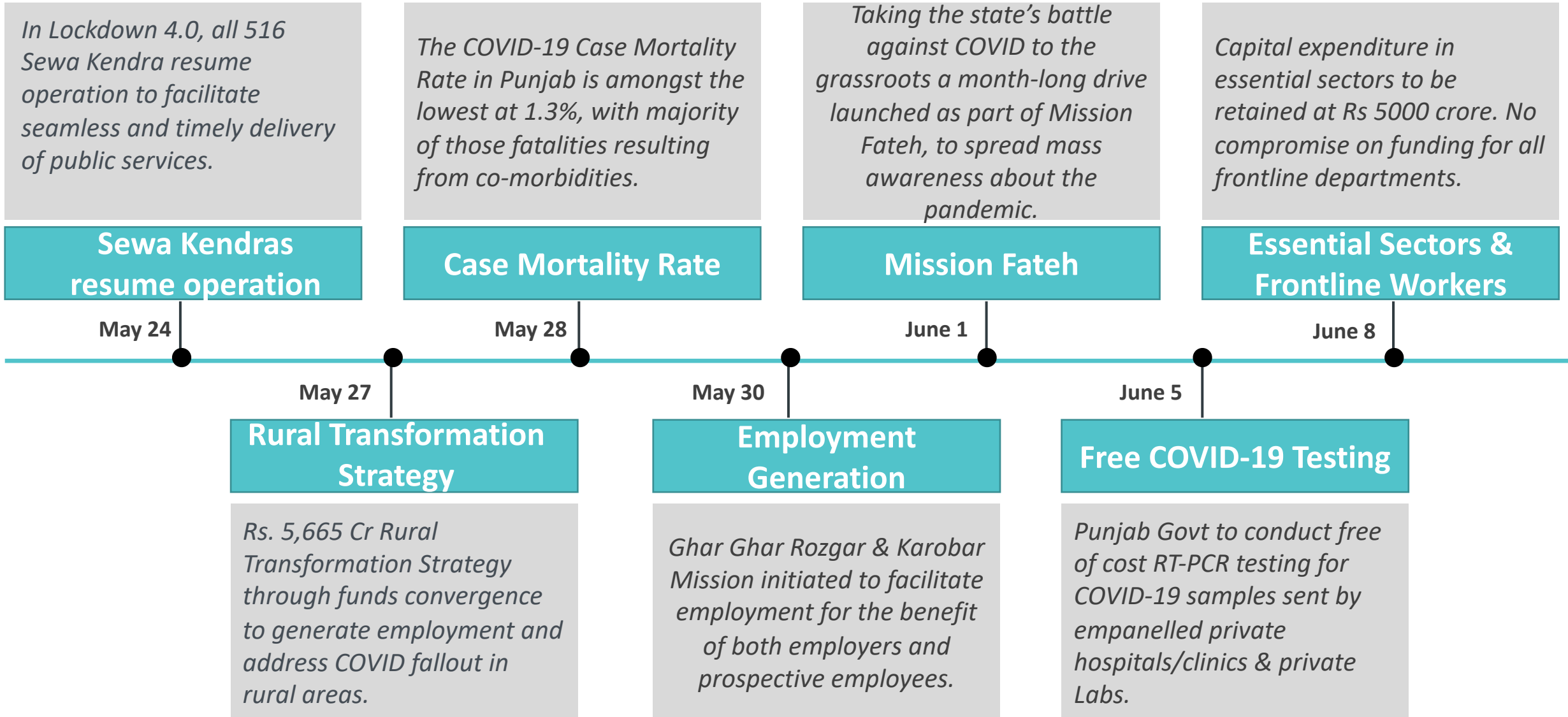
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [4/14]



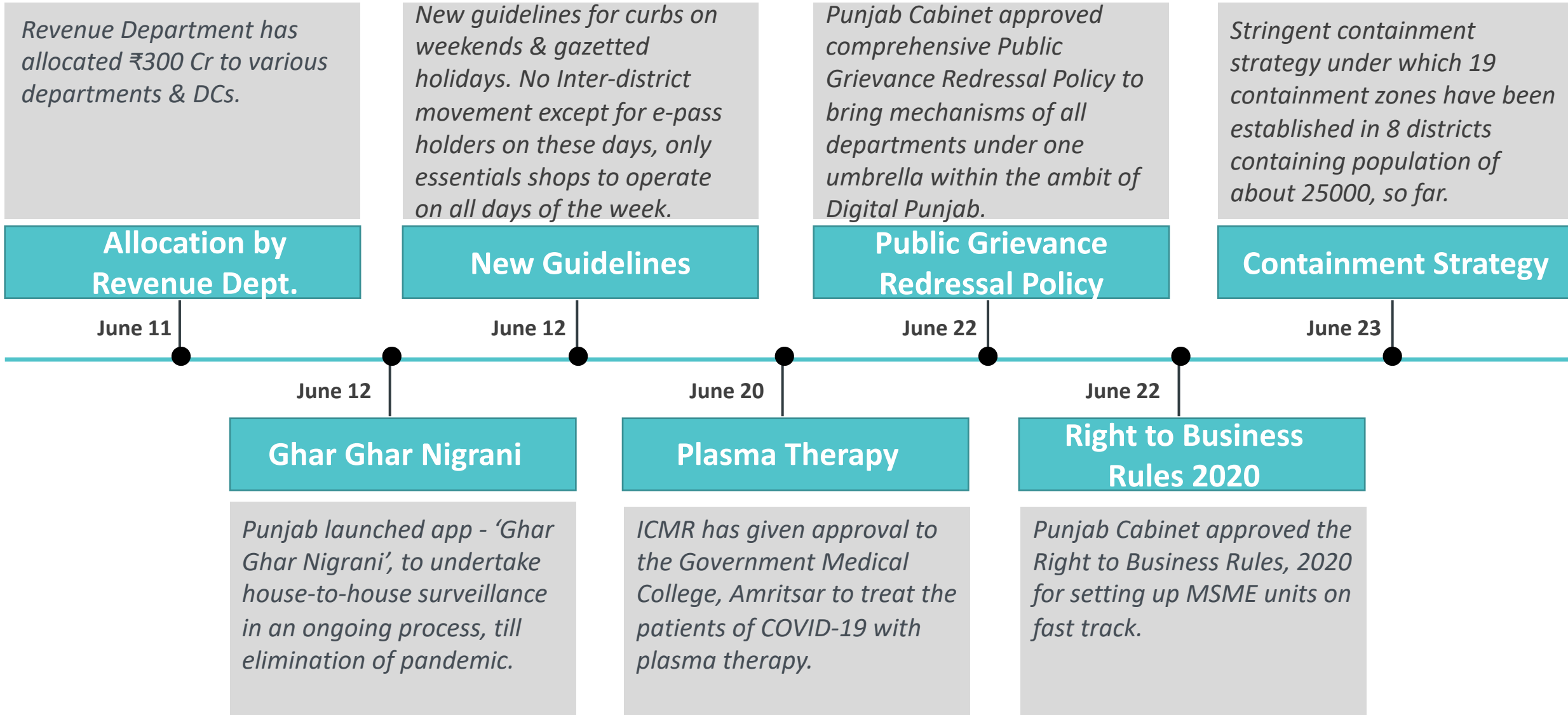
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [5/14]



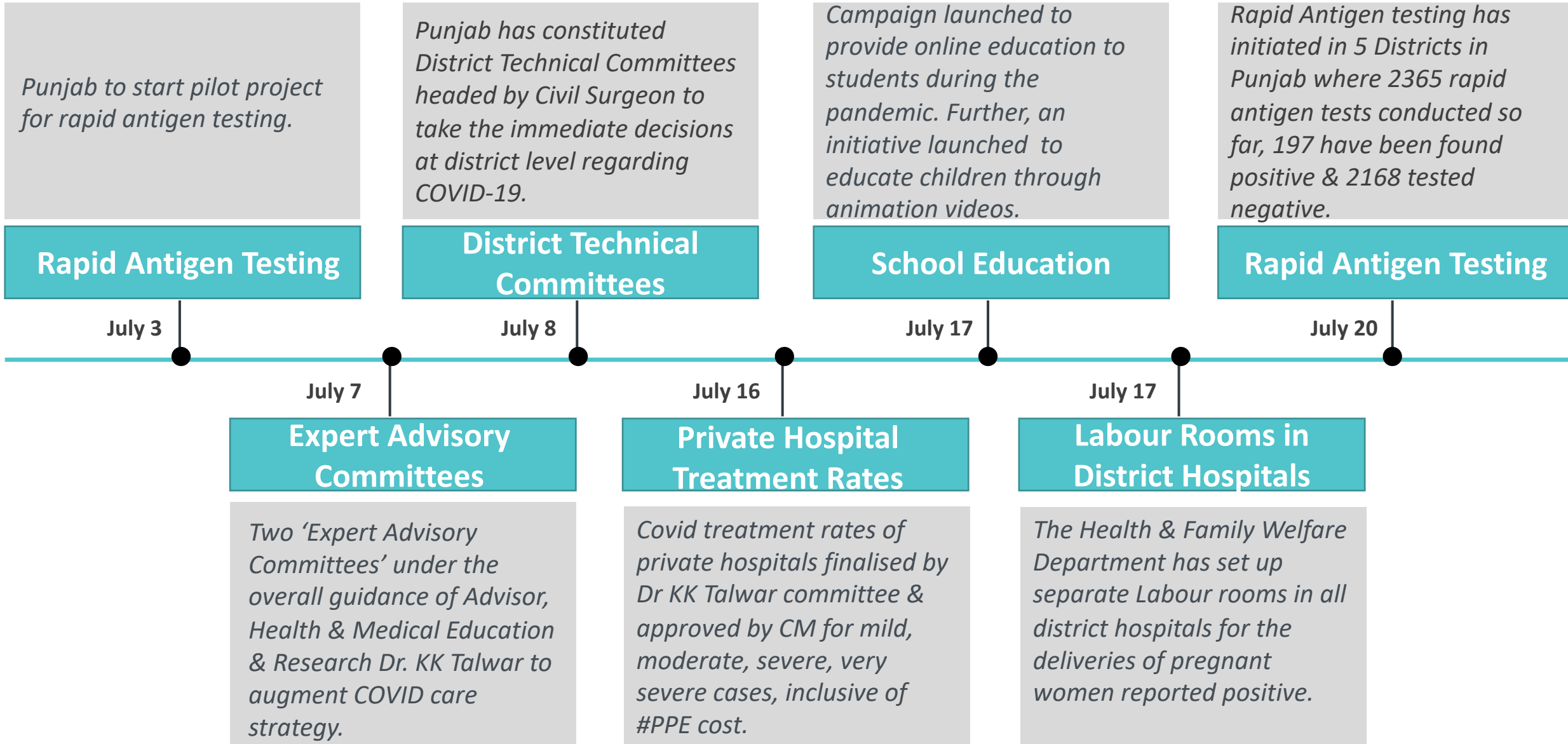
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [6/14]



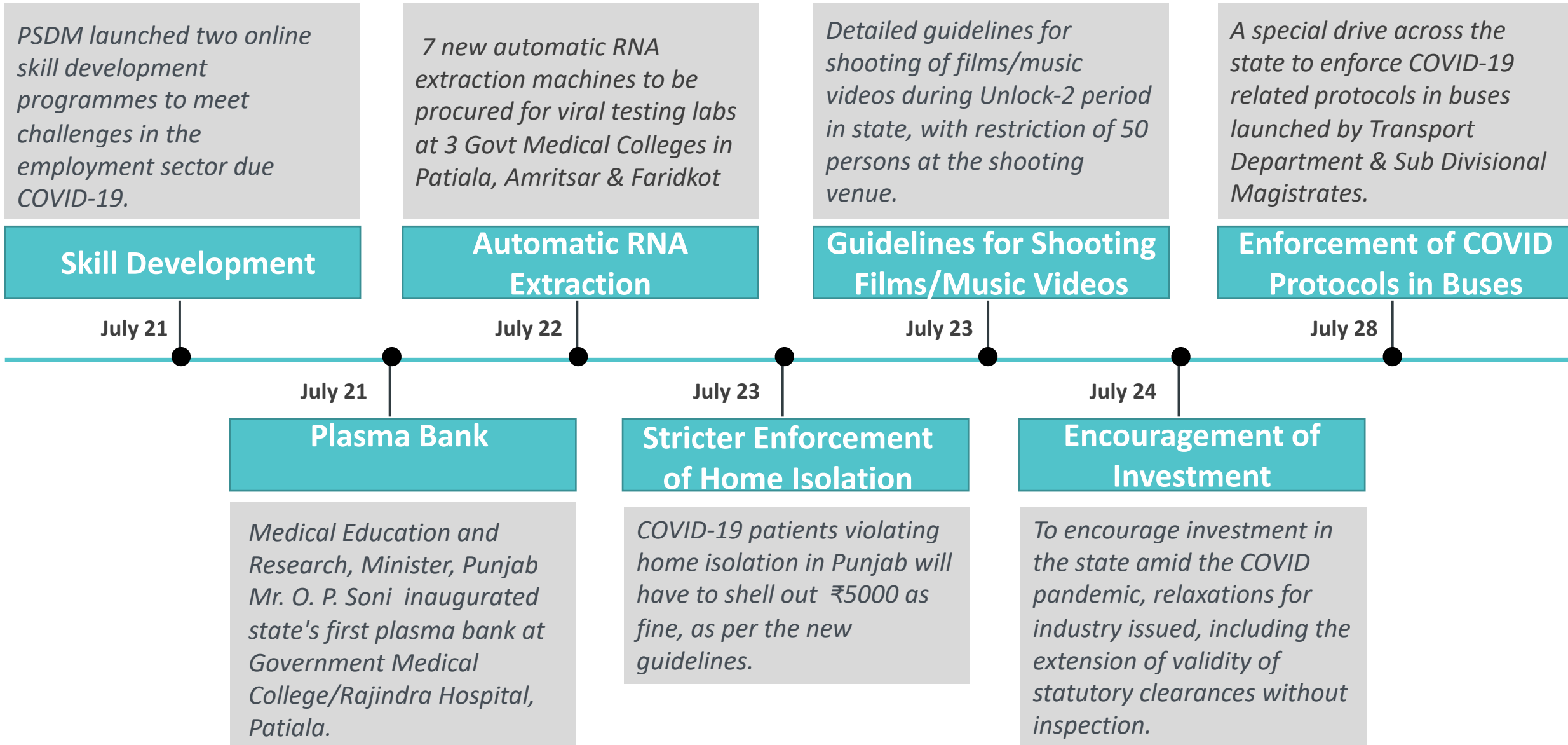
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [7/14]



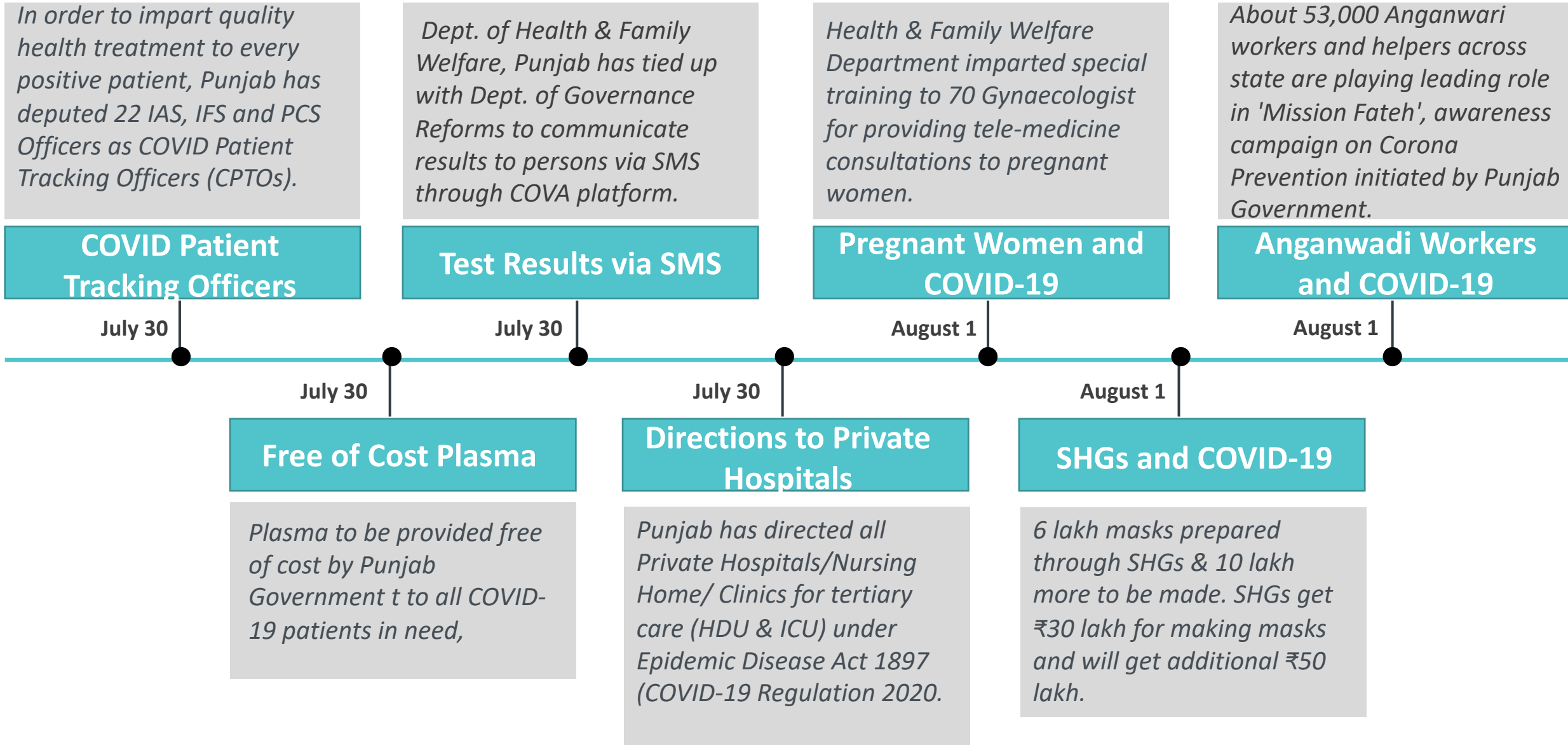
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [8/14]



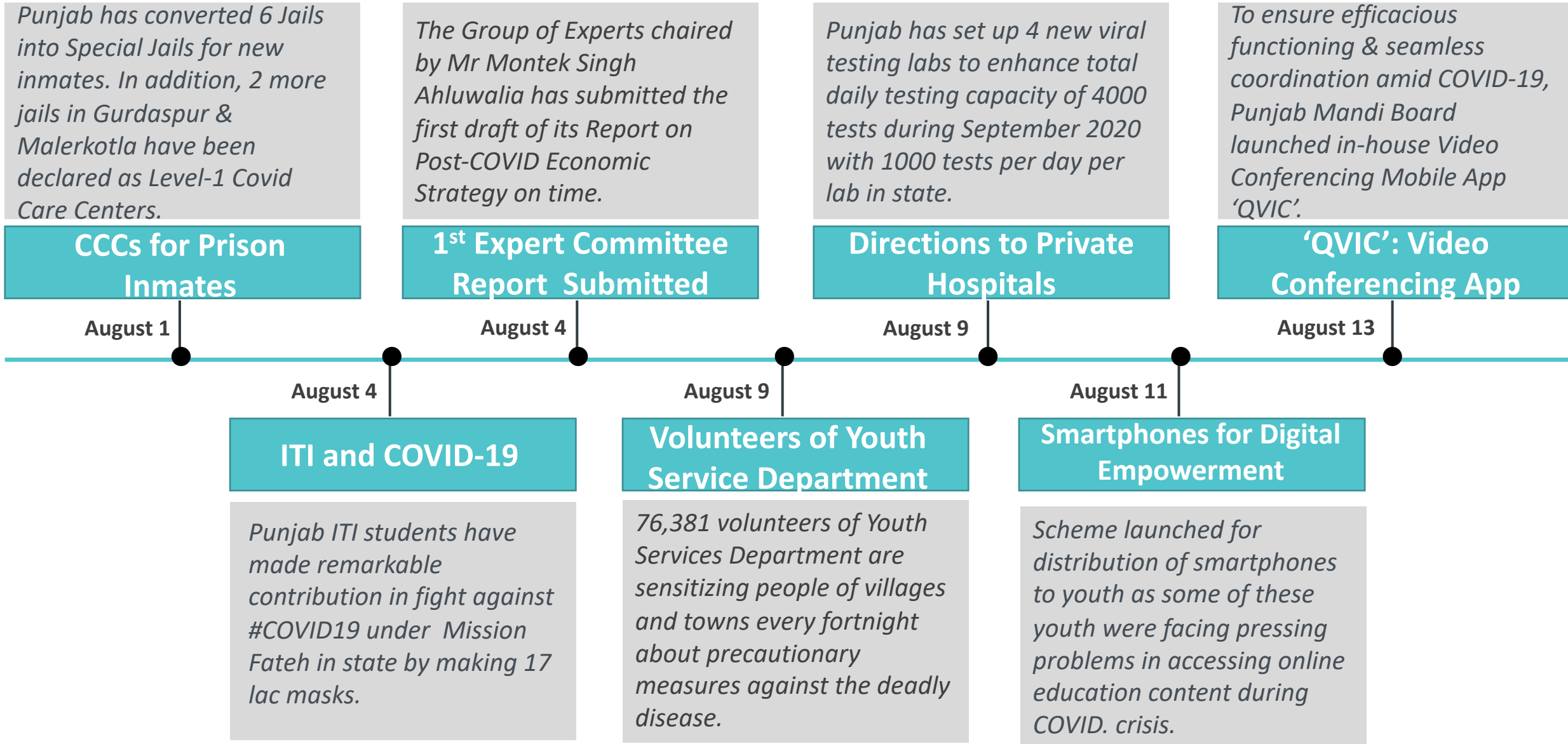
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [9/14]



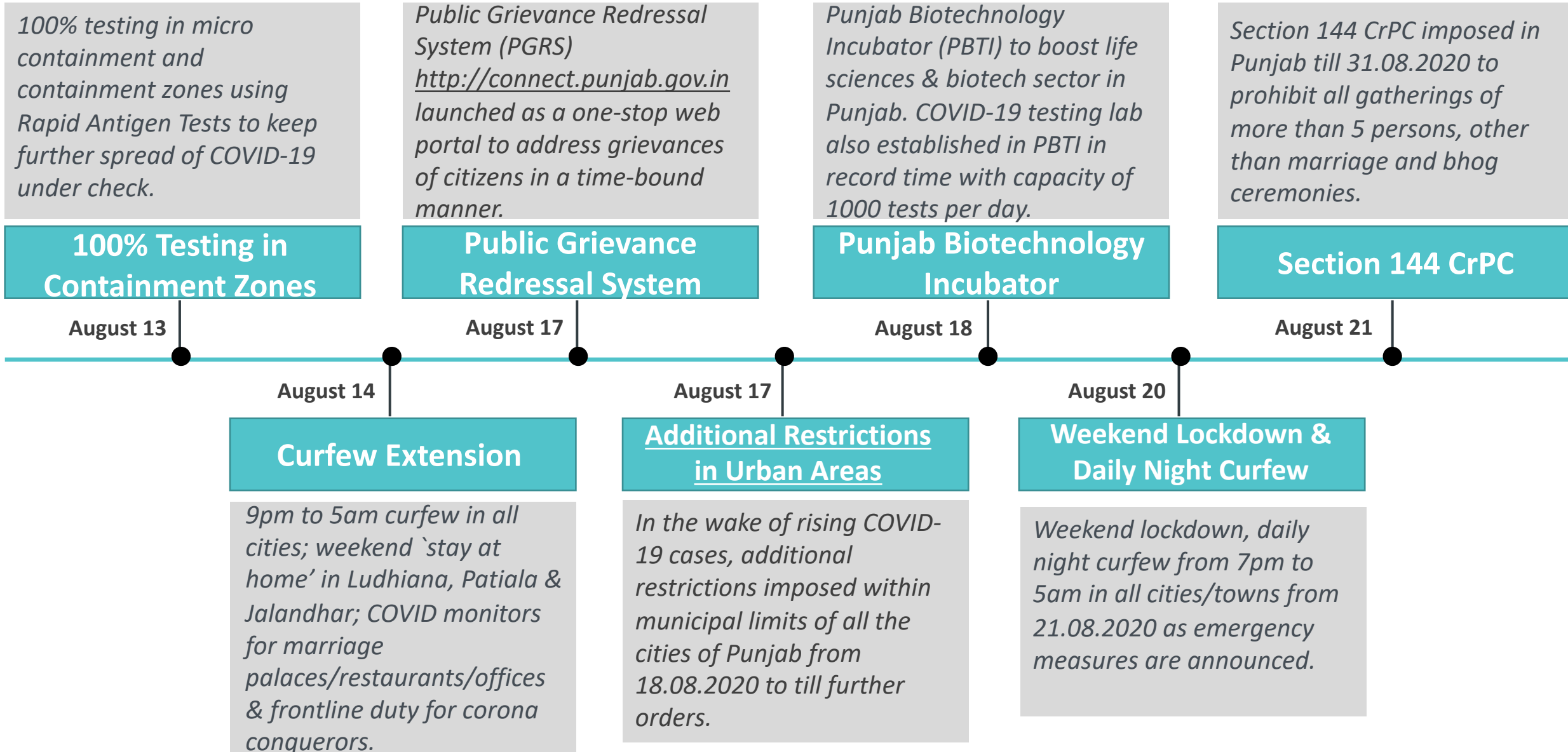
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [10/14]



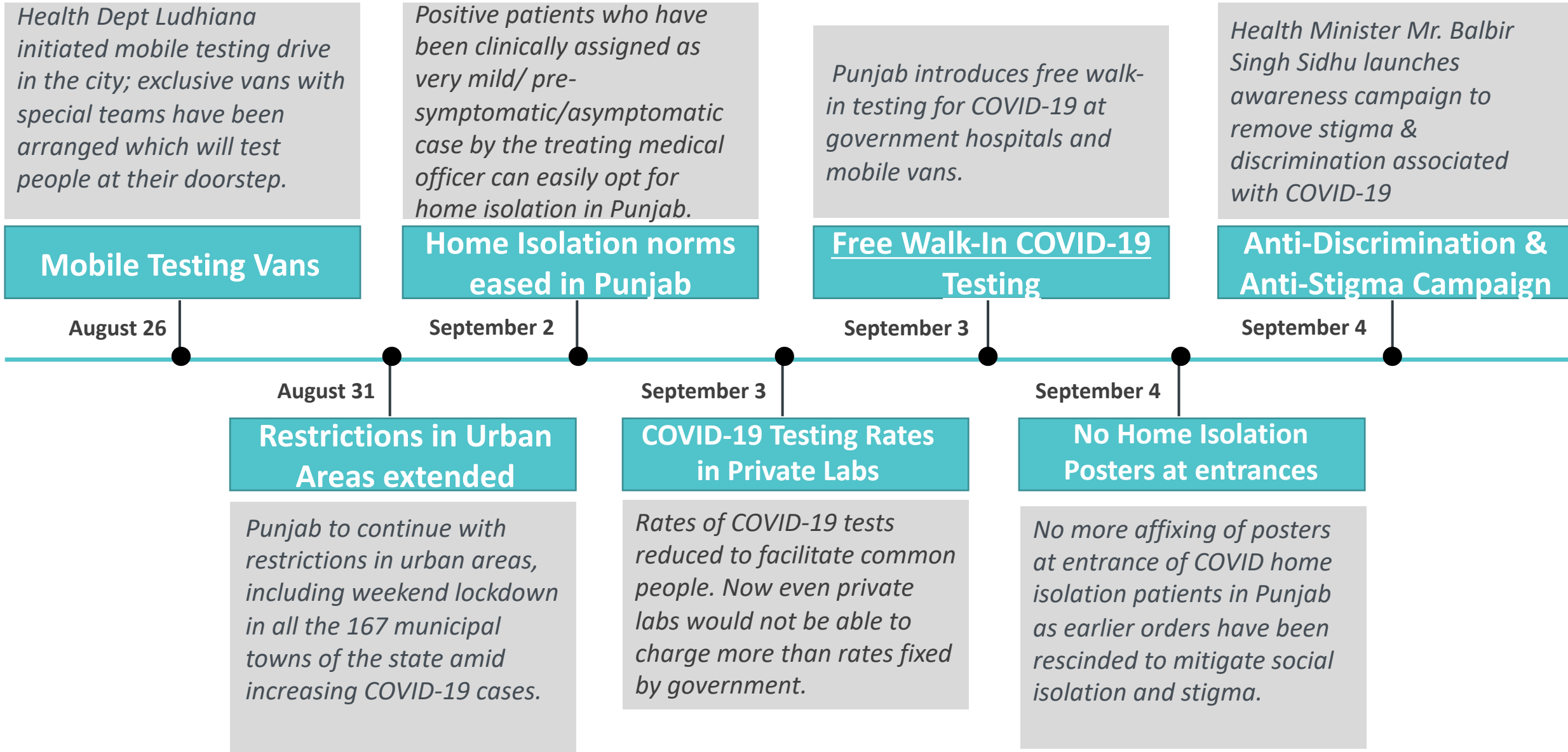
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [11/14]



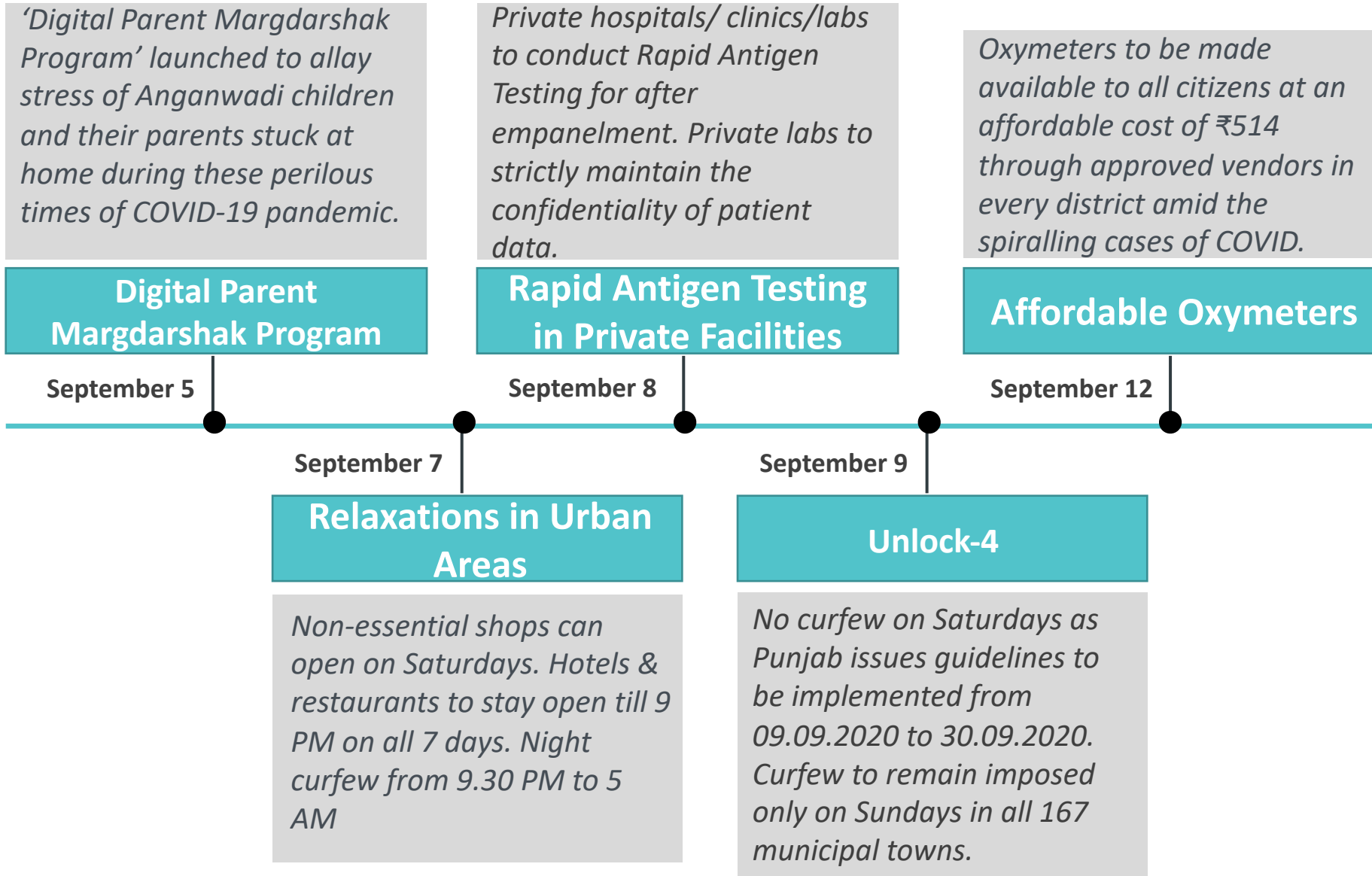
Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [12/14]



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



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





Thank You
