

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**

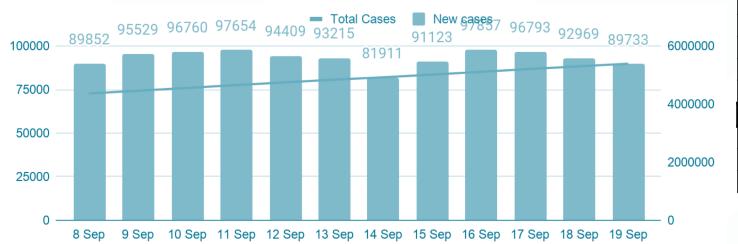
# Deaths per Mn pop

#### **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

#### **India Caseload Trend**

119.9



#### **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%

48.2

91.9

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

- Free Walk-in testing has been allowed in all government and private labs from September 2020 so any citizen can come and get tested
- Mobile Clinics with testing facilities were launched in August 2020 in Ludhiana and Patiala and being planned for Mohali and other districts
- Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) started for early detection and management of COVID-19 infections. 2,51,417 RAT samples collected so far.
- Ventilators have been provided to both government and private hospitals as per the requirement
- COVID-19 Anti-Stigma and Anti-Discrimination Campaign launched on 11 August 2020 with the support of UNDP and WHO.

## **SOME IMPORTANT DECISIONS**

- Government of Punjab constituted a Group of Experts led by Sh. Montek Singh Ahluwalia to develop a mediumterm and longer-term Post COVID Economic Strategy for the State. The Group has submitted first draft of the report for further discussion.
- 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
- Surveillance (Trace-Test-Treat Principle)
- 4 Capacity Building
- 5 Intersectoral Coordination

# REGULAR SURVEILLANCE FOR EARLY DETECTION

- 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

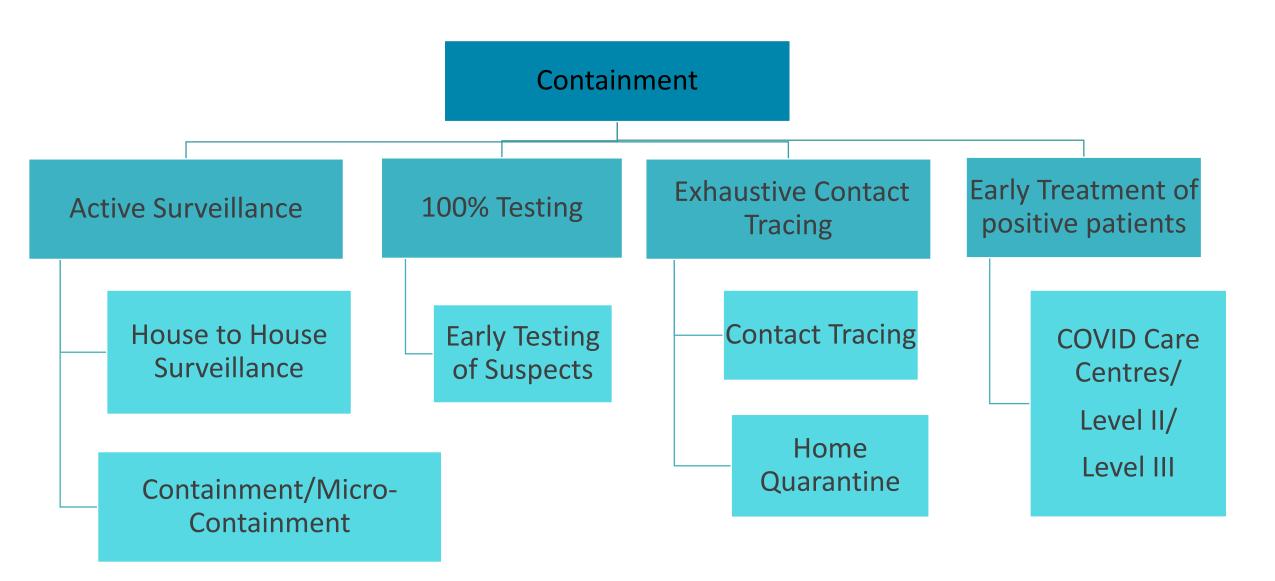
Group under the Chairpersonship

of Dr K. K. Talwar constituted with

the State Epidemiologist as the

Convener.

# **Containment Strategy**



## **Containment & Micro-containment Zones - Activities**

- Defining area of operation and applying strict perimeter control.
- Active search of cases: early isolation, contact listing and tracking, quarantine and follow up of contacts.
- 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.
- Motivating for 100% testing of population especially elderly and persons with co morbidities.
- 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.

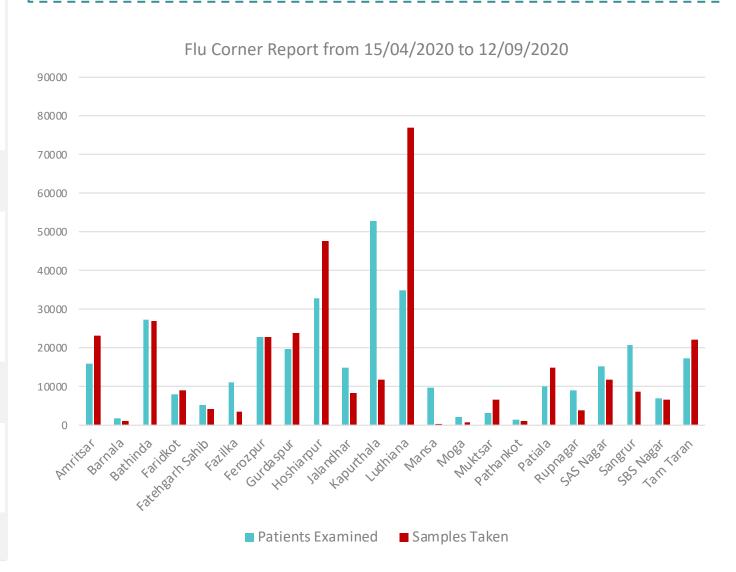
## **Flu Corners**

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).



## 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**



### LEVEL 2



### LEVEL 3



### **COVID CARE CENTRES**

or

- mildly
- symptomatic cases\*

Asymptomatic

- 12,962 beds in the state of readiness.
- > 7088 beds operationalized.

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

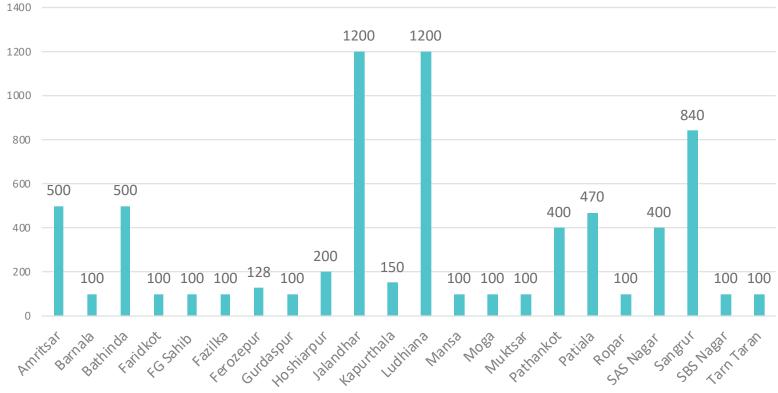
- **COVID HOSPITALS**
- Severely symptomatic and Critical Care patients
- At present, there are 325 level
   3 beds (invasive ventilator and without ventilator) in
   Government facilities

<sup>\*</sup>Home Isolation is also allowed for asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic cases.

## **COVID Care Centers**





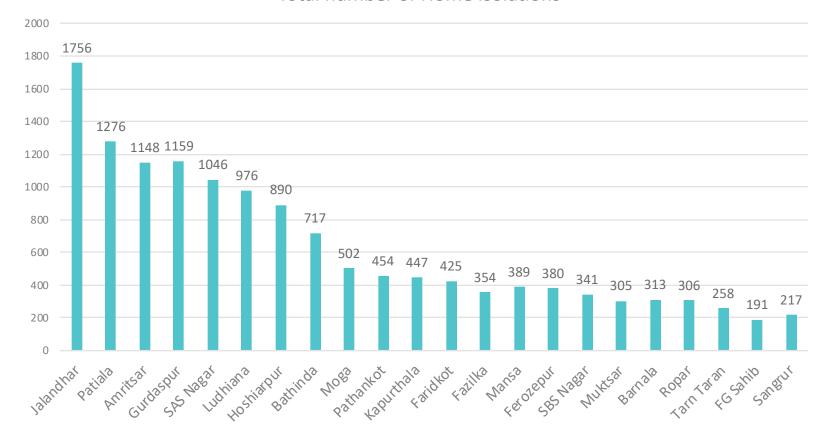


## **Home Isolation**

Total number of Home Isolations in Punjab is

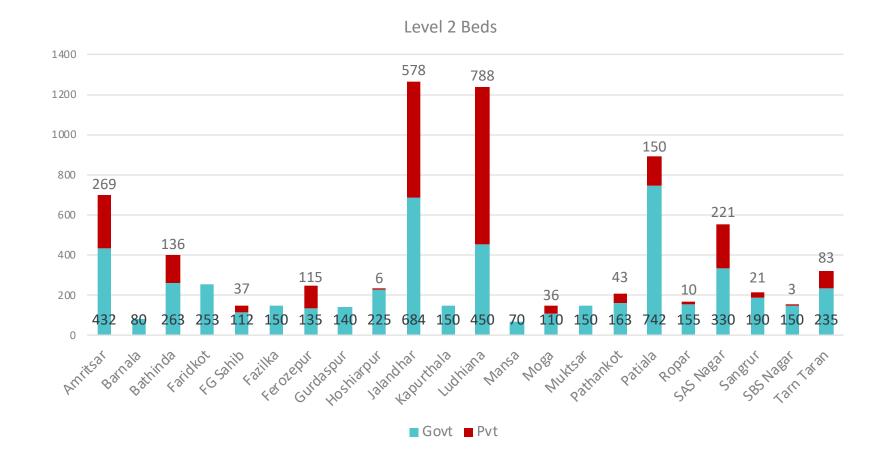
13,850. COVID Care Kits provided for free with supplies such as Pulse Oximeter, digital thermometer etc.

#### Total number of Home Isolations



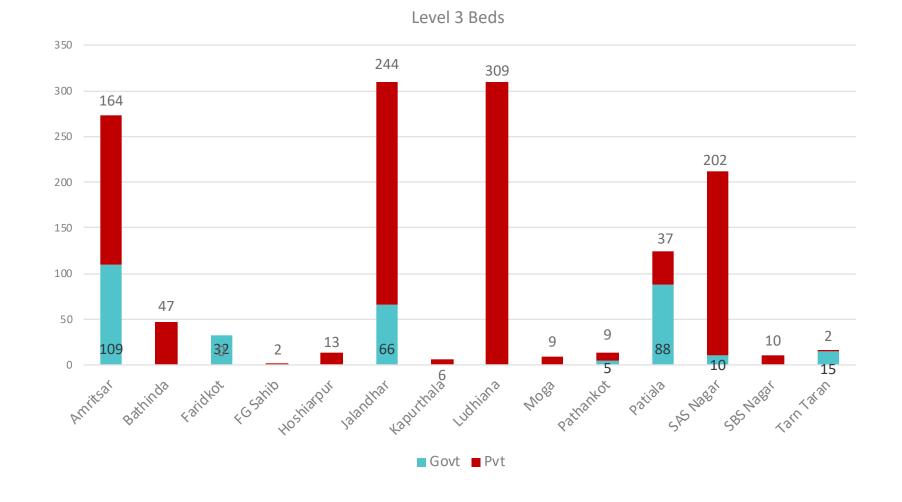
## **COVID Health Centres**

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**

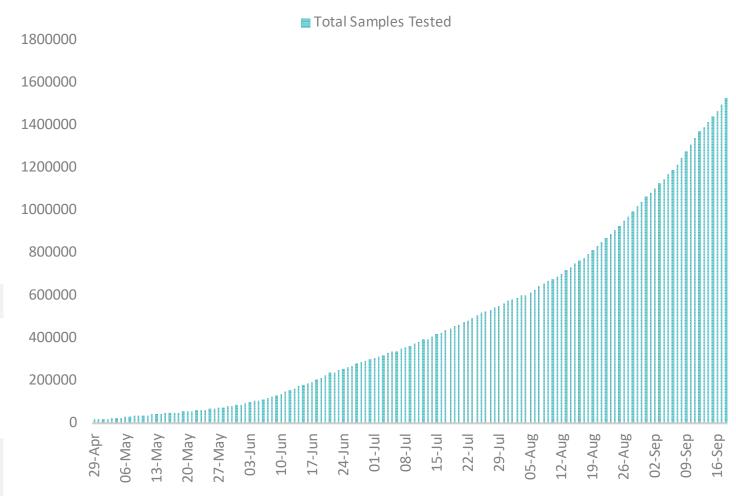
### **9 Government Facilities**

- GMC Amritsar (Capacity 5500)
- GMC Patiala (Capacity 5500)
- BFUHS Faridkot (Capacity 5500)
- GADVASU, Ludhiana (Capacity 750)
- RDDL, Jalandhar (Capacity 150)
- o 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.

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 16<sup>th</sup> to **51,032 tests per million population on September 18<sup>th</sup>** while the current **46,365 Indian average is tests per million population.** 



As on 18.09.2020

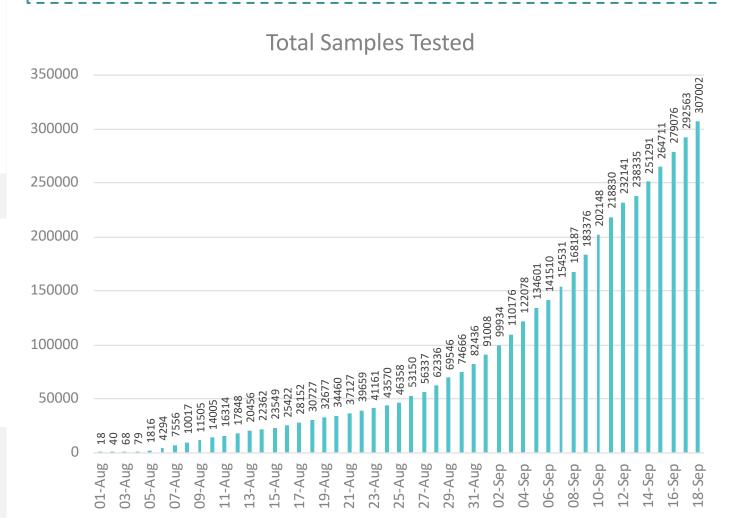
## Rapid Antigen Testing

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

Punjab government started COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Testing on 10<sup>th</sup> 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.



As on 18.09.2020

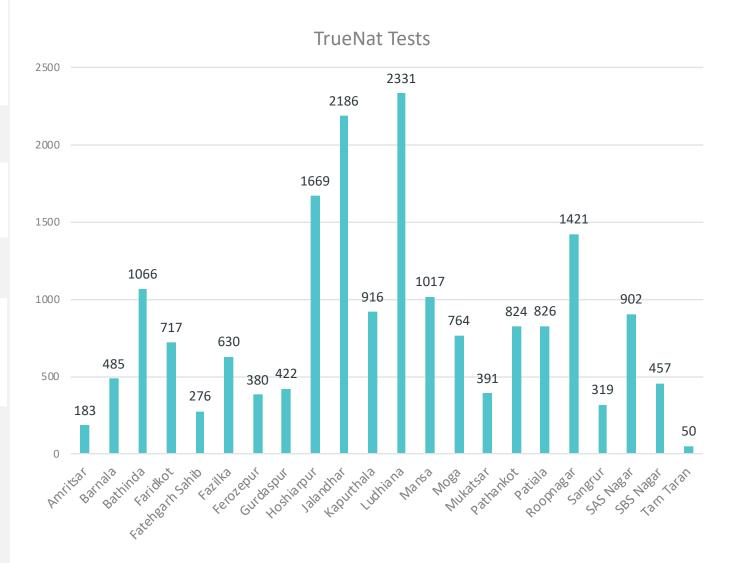
## TrueNat Testing

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.

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**

1<sup>st</sup> Mobile App in India, launched on 9<sup>th</sup> 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]

- COVA App has modules for sampling, patient line listing, contact tracing, containment zone, and bed management
- Plasma donor registration collaborated with DGR for testing and on boarding of portal/ software through COVA App for registration of plasma volunteers.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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]

- 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.

## **Other Actions**

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.

# **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.



**Single Emergency Helpline for Anyone in Distress** 

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

112



**Ambulance Service for Medical Emergency** 

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

108



**Health Emergency and Home Isolation support** 

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

104



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

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

1800

# **Directives, Guidelines and Protocols Issued**

- Constitution of teams at Health Facilities for hassle-free and easy sampling for COVID-19
- **Guidelines** regarding contagion of COVID-19 in Child Care Institutions
- 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 <u>Guidelines and Checklists</u> for Establishing and Operationalizing COVID Care Centres
- Guidelines regarding sanitizations of ambulances, oxygen cylinders, x-ray machines, and other equipment/ Hospital furniture
- Guidelines for infection prevention and control for isolation

# Advisories Issued [1/5]

- Updated Advisory on use of Air-Conditioning in Residential Commercial and Hospital settings
- Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitizaton while carrying out works under MNREGA
- <u>Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization of the Public or Private Sector Industries</u>
- 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
- **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]

- Updated General and specific Advisory on Opening and Maintaining Cattle Fairs
- Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization of Shops
- Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization at Petrol Pumps
- Advisory for the Special Care of Elderlies or Senior Citizens
- Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization of Sewa Kendras and their Staff
- Advisory of Socialization during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Revised Advisory for Masks
- Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of State Transport Undertakings

# Advisories Issued [3/5]

- Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Sewa Kendras and their Staff
- Advisory for the Special Care of Elderlies/Senior Citizens
- Advisory on Maintaining and Ensuring the Safety of Food and Other Essential Household Items
- Advisory on Maintaining the Hygiene and Sanitization of Shops
- Advisory for the People Involved in Frequent Interstate/Intrastate Movement
- Advisory regarding Home Quarantine of Returnees from Within the Country
- SOP regarding Returnees coming from Outside the Country
- Advisory on Cleaning and Maintenance of Mobile Phones

# Advisories Issued [4/5]

- Advisory on Opening and Maintaining Cattle Fairs
- Advisory on Maintaining the Hygiene and Sanitization of Barber Shops/Hair-cut Salons
- Advisory for Hotel and Suitable Lodging Facility for Health Staff
- Advisory on the Use of Air-Conditioning in Residential/Commercial/Hospital Settings
- Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Bank Spaces and their Staff
- Advisory on Safe Farming Operations (Procurement and Marketing)
- Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Public/Private Sector Industries and Staff
- Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization while Carrying-out Works Under MNREGA

# Advisories Issued [5/5]

- Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Office Spaces and Staff
- Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization at Petrol Pumps

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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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]

4 Committees to deal with Government of Punjab has Emergency measures to On CM's directives, Finance combat Coronavirus menace. Department released ₹296 Covid-19 management released ₹150 Cr for relief Punjab Cabinet approves crore on account of social Health Sector Response & works and ₹50 Cr for medical security pensions to 24.70 notification to set up Flu Procurement; Lockdown equipment Corners in all Govt and Pvt lakh beneficiaries for Jan & Implementation; Media & Feb 2020 hospitals Comm.; Agriculture & Food **Social Security Relief Relief Fund** Committees **Emergency Measures** March 21 March 2 March 29 April 6 April 3 March 9 March 22 Lockdown **COVA App Disaster Res. Fund** "COVA" mobile app launched Punjab Govt. orders State-₹53.43 crore released to DCs to sensitize people about wide Lockdown. Section 144 to immediately tackle any precautions from Novel imposed from March 23 to 31 exigency arising out of Covid-Corona Virus to combat Covid-19 Pandemic 19 crisis

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

30-member control room set-up 15-member multi-disciplinary Punjab Police has formulated a Mr. Montek S. Ahluwalia heads at the Mandi Board for support task force set up to formulate detailed strategy to tackle such 20-member expert group to during the ensuing wheat exit strategy for gradual cases, with daily action taken formulate Punjab's post-covid harvesting and marketing relaxation of curfew/lockdown in reports to be submitted by the revival strategy. Initial report to DSP for Crime Against Women season, set to begin on April 15 Punjab, will submit report in 10 be submitted on July 31 days (CAW) **Mandi Board Comm. Exit Strategy TaskForce** Tackle Dom. Violence **Group of Experts** April 7 April 10 April 23 April 25 April 24 **April 8** April 12 **Testing Capacity Telemedicine Procurement Infra** Punjab Govt. led by Chief *Infrastructure of 3691 purchase* Telemedicine services in 300 Minister ramped up its testing centers including 153 main Health and Wellness Centres to capacity by 10 times with yards, 280 sub yards, 1434 provide 'Comprehensive Primary procurement of 5 RTPCR and 4 purchase centers besides adding Health Services' on door-steps of RNA extraction machines (with 1824 yards of rice mills created people in rural areas) automation)

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

Govt of Punjab imposed Govt of Punjab decides to curfew in all 22 districts, Compulsory institutional provide subsidy up to 50% on Punjab Government has however, essential facilities, quarantine, for both positive purchase of machinery to spent more than ₹6 Cr to including MNREGA works, fund movement of migrants and negative cases coming help farmers to tackle the allowed to continue/start from other states problem of labour scarcity to their states till now amid COVID Compulsory **Machinery Subsidy Movement of Migrants State-wide Curfew** Quarantine April 30 April 26 May 5 **May 13** April 29 **May 10** May 4 **Child Rights in COVID COVID Help Regn.** Compensation Grant of ex-gratia Online registration for Govt of Punjab appointed compensation (Rs. 50 lakhs) people who want to return Vice-Chairperson and 4 Nonto the dependant to Punjab from other states Official members of the State members/legal heirs of and countries-Commission for Protection of employees, who die in http://covidhelp.punjab.gov.i harness while on Child Rights n Government duty

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

Punjab Govt. assures that only those schools which are imparting online education will be allowed to charge tuition fee for lockdown period

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

#### **School Tuition Fees**

May 14

Curfew replaced with Lockdown

May 16

No COVID-19 case during Procurement

May 17

**Telemedicine Collaboration** 

**May 18** 

**May 16** 

**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 Comorbidities

**May 17** 

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** 

**May 18** 

RTI helpline for prompt response to people's RTI related queries launched. +91 172 2864100 to be operational from 10am-4pm, Monday-Friday.

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

The investments in IT/ITeS *Punjab's recovery at over 90%* CDAC Mohali's flagship sectors in state have touched Punjab Govt. decides to grant with only 143 active cases. integrated telemedicine ₹605 Cr, which is approx. 180 days Maternity Leave to Five districts, namely Sangrur, solution implemented across 65% higher than the Government College Guest SAS Nagar, Ferozepur, the state. Gynaecology investment figure of last Bathinda & Moga have 0 Faculty Lecturers Services to start from 1st June financial year. active cases. **Investments during Maternity Leaves** e-Sanjeevani OPD **High Recovery Rate** COVID-19 **May 18** May 19 May 20 **May 23** May 19 **May 21 May 19 House and Property Subsidies to SC PPE Manufacturers Beneficiaries** Tax Punjab Land Development Amid the success of PPE Punjab Govt. decided to Manufacturers in Punjab, extend the deadline to pay and Financial Corporation the outstanding house tax or has issued subsidy to the Govt. has requested all property tax without any tune of ₹140.40 lakh for SC States to order from these penalty till 30th June 2020. beneficiaries to help them units whenever needed at recover from COVID crisis **HLL** rates

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

to generate employment and

address COVID fallout in

rural areas.

Taking the state's battle In Lockdown 4.0, all 516 against COVID to the Capital expenditure in The COVID-19 Case Mortality Sewa Kendra resume Rate in Punjab is amongst the grassroots a month-long drive essential sectors to be operation to facilitate *lowest at 1.3%, with majority* launched as part of Mission retained at Rs 5000 crore. No seamless and timely delivery of those fatalities resulting Fateh, to spread mass compromise on funding for all of public services. from co-morbidities. awareness about the frontline departments. pandemic. **Sewa Kendras Essential Sectors & Case Mortality Rate Mission Fateh Frontline Workers** resume operation May 24 **May 28** June 1 June 8 **May 27 May 30** June 5 **Rural Transformation Employment Free COVID-19 Testing** Strategy Generation Punjab Govt to conduct free *Rs.* 5,665 *Cr Rural* Ghar Ghar Rozgar & Karobar Transformation Strategy of cost RT-PCR testing for Mission initiated to facilitate through funds convergence COVID-19 samples sent by employment for the benefit

of both employers and

prospective employees.

empanelled private

Labs.

hospitals/clinics & private

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

New guidelines for curbs on Punjab Cabinet approved Revenue Department has Stringent containment weekends & gazetted comprehensive Public allocated ₹300 Cr to various strategy under which 19 holidays. No Inter-district Grievance Redressal Policy to departments & DCs. containment zones have been movement except for e-pass bring mechanisms of all established in 8 districts holders on these days, only departments under one containing population of essentials shops to operate umbrella within the ambit of about 25000, so far. on all days of the week. Digital Punjab. **Allocation by Public Grievance New Guidelines Containment Strategy** Revenue Dept. **Redressal Policy** June 11 June 12 June 22 June 23 June 22 June 12 June 20 **Right to Business Ghar Ghar Nigrani Plasma Therapy Rules 2020** Punjab launched app - 'Ghar ICMR has given approval to *Punjab Cabinet approved the* Right to Business Rules, 2020 Ghar Nigrani', to undertake the Government Medical house-to-house surveillance College, Amritsar to treat the for setting up MSME units on in an ongoing process, till patients of COVID-19 with fast track. elimination of pandemic. plasma therapy.

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

Campaign launched to Rapid Antigen testing has Punjab has constituted provide online education to initiated in 5 Districts in District Technical Committees students during the Punjab where 2365 rapid Punjab to start pilot project headed by Civil Surgeon to pandemic. Further, an antigen tests conducted so for rapid antigen testing. take the immediate decisions initiative launched to far, 197 have been found at district level regarding educate children through positive & 2168 tested COVID-19. animation videos. negative. **District Technical Rapid Antigen Testing Rapid Antigen Testing School Education** Committees July 3 July 8 **July 17** July 20 July 7 **July 16 July 17 Expert Advisory** Labour Rooms in **Private Hospital Committees District Hospitals Treatment Rates** Covid treatment rates of The Health & Family Welfare Two 'Expert Advisory Committees' under the private hospitals finalised by Department has set up separate Labour rooms in all Dr KK Talwar committee & overall quidance of Advisor, approved by CM for mild, district hospitals for the Health & Medical Education moderate, severe, very deliveries of pregnant & Research Dr. KK Talwar to severe cases, inclusive of women reported positive. augment COVID care #PPE cost. strategy.

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

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.

#### **Skill Development**

July 21

Automatic RNA Extraction

July 22

Guidelines for Shooting Films/Music Videos

July 23

Enforcement of COVID

Protocols in Buses

July 28

#### Plasma Bank

**July 21** 

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

# Stricter Enforcement of Home Isolation

July 23

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

## **Encouragement of Investment**

July 24

To encourage investment in the state amid the COVID pandemic, relaxations for industry issued, including the extension of validity of statutory clearances without inspection.

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

About 53,000 Anganwari *In order to impart quality* Dept. of Health & Family Health & Family Welfare workers and helpers across health treatment to every Welfare, Punjab has tied up Department imparted special state are playing leading role positive patient, Punjab has with Dept. of Governance training to 70 Gynaecologist in 'Mission Fateh', awareness deputed 22 IAS, IFS and PCS Reforms to communicate for providing tele-medicine Officers as COVID Patient campaign on Corona results to persons via SMS consultations to pregnant Tracking Officers (CPTOs). Prevention initiated by Punjab through COVA platform. women. Government. **Pregnant Women and Anganwadi Workers COVID Patient Test Results via SMS** COVID-19 and COVID-19 **Tracking Officers** July 30 July 30 August 1 August 1 July 30 July 30 August 1 **Directions to Private Free of Cost Plasma SHGs and COVID-19** Hospitals 6 lakh masks prepared Punjab has directed all Plasma to be provided free through SHGs & 10 lakh Private Hospitals/Nursing of cost by Punjab Home/ Clinics for tertiary more to be made. SHGs get Government t to all COVIDcare (HDU & ICU) under ₹30 lakh for making masks 19 patients in need, Epidemic Disease Act 1897 and will get additional ₹50 (COVID-19 Regulation 2020. lakh.

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

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.

> **CCCs for Prison** Inmates

August 1

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.

1<sup>st</sup> Expert Committee **Report Submitted** 

August 4

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.

**Directions to Private** Hospitals

August 9

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

> 'QVIC': Video **Conferencing App**

August 13

August 4

**ITI and COVID-19** 

Punjab ITI students have made remarkable contribution in fight against #COVID19 under Mission Fateh in state by making 17 lac masks.

Volunteers of Youth **Service Department** 

August 9

76,381 volunteers of Youth Services Department are sensitizing people of villages and towns every fortnight about precautionary measures against the deadly disease.

**Smartphones for Digital** 

August 11

Scheme launched for distribution of smartphones to youth as some of these youth were facing pressing problems in accessing online

**Empowerment** 

education content during COVID. crisis.

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

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

100% Testing in Containment Zones

August 13

Public Grievance Redressal
System (PGRS)

<a href="http://connect.punjab.gov.in">http://connect.punjab.gov.in</a>
launched as a one-stop web
portal to address grievances
of citizens in a time-bound
manner.

Public Grievance Redressal System

August 17

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.

Punjab Biotechnology Incubator

August 18

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.

**Section 144 CrPC** 

August 21

August 14

#### **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.

August 17

## 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. August 20

## 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 [13/14]

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.

**Mobile Testing Vans** 

August 26

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

Home Isolation norms eased in Punjab

September 2

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

Free Walk-In COVID-19
Testing

September 3

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

Anti-Discrimination & Anti-Stigma Campaign

September 4

August 31

Restrictions in Urban
Areas extended

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.

September 3

COVID-19 Testing Rates in Private Labs

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. September 4

No Home Isolation
Posters at entrances

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.

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

'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.

Oxymeters 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.

#### Digital Parent Margdarshak Program

September 5

Rapid Antigen Testing in Private Facilities

September 8

#### **Affordable Oxymeters**

September 12

**September 7** 

## Relaxations in Urban Areas

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

#### September 9

#### Unlock-4

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.

