Extend lockdown beyond April 14

India's state govts urge Centre as 354 cases reported in last 24 hrs

PTI, *New Delhi*

A lot of state governments as well as experts are requesting the Central government to extend the nationwide coronavirus lockdown beyond April 14, and the Centre is thinking in this direction, government sources said yesterday.

However, sources did not indicate if a final decision has been taken on the matter.

India is currently under the 21-day lockdown since March 25, with only essential services exempted, to contain the fast-spreading virus, which has claimed more than 75,800 lives and afflicted over 13.5 lakh people across 183 countries.

As per ministry of health and family welfare data yesterday, India recorded 354 confirmed cases of Covid-19 taking the total number of cases in the country to 4,421.

"A lot of state governments as well as experts are requesting Central Government to extend the lockdown. The Central government is thinking in this direction," a source said.

The development comes a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi asked countrymen to be ready for a long battle against the coronavirus pandemic, and exhorted people to not feel tired or defeated while and expressing confidence the country will emerge victorious in its fight.

Meanwhile, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has shot off letters to chief ministers of Delhi and Maharashtra to ensure the safety of nurses hailing from Kerala working in these states following reports of para- medical staff being affected with Covid-19. Vijayan had said 46 nurses from Kerala in Mumbai have been infected by the virus and more than 150 nurses were under observation there.

Volunteers throw a mixture of water, neem herb and turmeric as an alleged natural disinfectant on a street in a residential area in Chennai, India yesterday during a government-imposed nationwide lockdown as a preventive measure against the coronavirus. PHOTO: AFP

US death toll nears 11,000

Outbreak shows signs of levelling off in New York, New Jersey, but vigilance urged

AGENCIES

The governors of New York, New Jersey and Louisiana pointed to tentative signs on Monday that the coronavirus outbreak may be starting to plateau in their states but warned against complacency as the death toll nationwide approached 11,000.

Although coronavirus cases and deaths continued to mount, the governors cited data suggesting the rates of growth and hospitalisations were slowing, possibly signalling a peak was at hand in three US epicentres of the pandemic.

More than 90% of Americans were under statewide stay-at-home orders issued in recent weeks, with South Carolina joining on Monday.

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said state-wide deaths from Covid-19, the highly contagious respiratory illness caused by the virus, were up 599 from Sunday, on par with an increase of 594 during the previous 24 hours and 630 on Friday.

The state's overall tally of confirmed cases grew by 7% from the previous day to 130,680. But hospitalisations, admissions to intensive care units and the number of patients put on ventilator machines to keep them breathing had all declined, Cuomo said.

NY governor warns against complacency

US begins blood tests for immunity: reports

90% of Americans ordered to stay home

"While none of this is good news, the possible flattening of the curve is better than the increases that we have seen," Cuomo told a daily briefing, referring to the trend line formed when infections, deaths and other data are plotted on a graph. "If we are plateauing, we are plateauing at a high level."

For doctors, nurses and emergency personnel in the trenches of the unprecedented public health crisis - many still coping with scarcities of protective garments and other supplies - the pace of their work remained unrelenting.

New York City accounts for two thirds of nearly 4,800 deaths in New York state, which in turn represents about 45% of the nation's total loss of life to date.

In neighbouring New Jersey, the state with the second-highest number of cases and deaths, Governor Phil Murphy cited a 12% day-to-day growth rate in confirmed positive cases on Monday, half the rate from March 30.

The US has begun taking blood samples from across the country to determine the true number of people infected with the coronavirus, using a test that works retrospectively, according to reports.

The new tests are based on serological surveys, which differ from the nasal swabs used to determine if someone currently has the virus, reports AFP.

Instead, they look for whether certain antibodies are present in the blood which shows that the person fought and then recovered from the illness -- even if they never showed symptoms.

World short of six million nurses

Says WHO, warns against easing lockdown measures too early

AGENCIES

As Covid-19 captures global headlines, the World Health Organization (WHO) warned yesterday that the world needs nearly six million nurses.

The UN's health agency along with partners Nursing Now and the International Council of Nurses (ICN) underscored in a report the crucial role played by nurses, who make up more than half of all health workers worldwide.

"Nurses are the backbone of any health system," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in a statement.

"Today, many nurses find themselves on the frontline in the battle against Covid-19," he noted, adding that it was vital they "get the support they need to keep the world healthy."

The report said that there are just under 28 million nurses on the planet. In the five years leading up to 2018, the number grew by 4.7 million, reports AFP.

"But this still leaves a global shortfall of 5.9 million," the WHO said, pointing out that the greatest gaps were in poorer countries in Africa, southeast Asia, the Middle East and parts of South America.

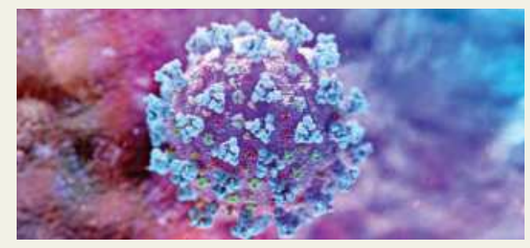
The report urged countries to identify gaps in their nursing workforce and invest in nursing education, jobs and leadership.

Meanwhile, a spokesman said yesterday World Health Organization has no blanket recommendation for countries and regions for easing measures to slow the spread of the coronavirus pandemic, but urged them not to lift them too early, reports Reuters.

"One of the most important parts is not to let go of the measures too early in order not to have a fall back again," said WHO spokesman Christian Lindmeier in a virtual briefing.

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

LATEST UPDATES



S KOREANS RECOVER AFTER PLASMA THERAPY

Two elderly South Korean coronavirus patients recovered from severe pneumonia after being treated with plasma from survivors, researchers said yesterday, offering hope in the face of the global pandemic. Scientists have pointed to the potential benefits of plasma -- a blood fluid -- from recovered individuals who have developed antibodies to the virus enabling the body's defences to attack it.

NEWBORNS CONTRACT VIRUS IN ROMANIA

A Romanian maternity unit was being investigated yesterday after 10 newborns tested positive for the novel coronavirus, with the suspicion they contracted the virus from healthcare staff. "The mothers tested negative, but the babies tested positive so we have to consider their contacts with medical staff," Health Minister Nelu Tataru said in an interview with the Antena 3 TV station late on Monday.

INDIA EASES MALARIA DRUG EXPORT BAN

India yesterday announced a partial lifting of a fresh export ban on a malaria drug seen as a potential coronavirus treatment, after US President Donald Trump hinted at "retaliation". Citing domestic needs, India banned on Saturday exports of hydroxychloroquine which has shown early promise against Covid-19 in small-scale studies in France and China.

DOZENS CONTRACT VIRUS AT PAK JAIL

Dozens of prisoners in a Pakistani jail have contracted the novel coronavirus, officials have said, with more than 150 additional inmates potentially infected as cases of Covid-19 continue to soar in the impoverished country. At least 49 inmates at a jail in the eastern city of Lahore have tested positive, according to a tweet by the provincial chief minister late Monday.

FRANCE REPORTS 'AGRICULTURAL ARMY' CANDIDATES

More than 200,000 people have answered France's call for idled workers to help crop and livestock farmers desperate for extra hands as summer approaches, Agriculture Minister Didier Guillaume said yesterday. "Today we have more than 200,000 applicants, and we have 5,000 recruiters who are organising the work," Guillaume told France 2 television.

IRAN VIRUS DEATHS RISE 133 TO 3,872

Iran yesterday reported 133 new deaths from the novel coronavirus, bringing the total number of officially confirmed fatalities to 3,872. In the past 24 hours, 2,089 new cases of Covid-19 infection were recorded across the country, health ministry spokesman Kianoush Jahanpour said. That brought the number of confirmed cases to 62,589, he told a televised news conference.

EU ANNOUNCES 15B EUROS TO FIGHT VIRUS

The European Union is to put up 15 billion euros ($16.4 billion) to help poor countries fight the coronavirus epidemic, the bloc's chief announced yesterday. European Commission head Ursula von der Leyen said the money would help countries with weak healthcare systems tackle the impact of Covid-19 and also aid their long-term economic recovery.

SAUDI EXPECTS 200,000 CASES WITHIN WEEKS

Saudi Arabia's health minister yesterday warned of a huge spike in coronavirus cases of up to 200,000 within the coming weeks, state media reported. "Within the next few weeks, studies predict the number of infections will range from a minimum of 10,000 to a maximum of 200,000," the official Saudi Press Agency reported, citing minister Tawfiq al-Rabiah.

WORKERS FACING WORST CRISIS: UN

Some 1.25 billion workers are seeing their livelihoods threatened by the Covid-19 pandemic, the United Nations said yesterday, warning it was the "worst global crisis" since World War II. In a fresh study, the International Labour Organization warned that the global spread of the new coronavirus and the drastic measures taken to rein in the disease would, during the second quarter of 2020 alone, wipe out 6.7 percent of working hours globally.

SOURCE: AFP

Trump press secretary Grisham steps down

President Donald Trump's chief spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham, who never held a single press briefing in a White House where Trump runs much of the communications himself, stepped down yesterday. The White House said Grisham would now become spokeswoman and chief of staff for Trump's wife Melania. "First Lady Melania Trump is today announcing that Stephanie Grisham will be rejoining the East Wing full time as chief of staff and spokesperson," a statement said. Grisham took up the once high profile job of White House press secretary in June last year but has been largely invisible since.

UN refrains from blaming Russia for Syria attacks

A UN board of inquiry investigating attacks on civilian establishments in Syria, including hospitals, has refrained from directly holding Russia responsible, according to a summary of its report published Monday. The coordinates of the sites had been communicated to the belligerents by the United Nations to protect them from air strikes. Without mentioning Russia, the investigation concluded that in four out of the seven cases studied by the board -- a school, a health center, a surgical hospital and a protection center -- "the government of Syria and/or its allies had carried out the airstrike." In 2019, The New York Times published an exhaustive investigation that directly incriminated Russia in attacks on hospitals in Syria.

WhatsApp tightens sharing limits

WhatsApp yesterday placed new limits on message forwarding as part of an effort to curb the spread of misinformation about the coronavirus pandemic. The new policy limits users to forwarding certain messages to one "chat" at a time, aiming to limit the rapid propagation of content which is provocative but likely to be false. The Facebook-owned messaging platform said it took the action to enable people to concentrate on personal and private communications during the health crisis. In recent weeks, "we've seen a significant increase in the amount of forwarding which users have told us can feel overwhelming and can contribute to the spread of misinformation," WhatsApp said in a blog post.

SOURCE: AFP

Britain set for 66,000 deaths, most in Europe: study

AFP, *Paris*

Britain could see as many as 66,000 Covid-19 deaths during the first wave of the current pandemic, new research showed yesterday, making the outbreak there by far the deadliest in Europe.

Modelling conducted by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington's School of Medicine showed that approximately 151,680 people were likely to die from the virus across the continent.

While the novel coronavirus emerged in China and was initially focussed in east Asia, the World Health Organization now says the pandemic is centred in western Europe, with Spain, Italy and France experiencing devastating death tolls.

Most European nations have introduced strict social distancing measures to try to stem the virus spread. More than 5,000 people have died from Covid-19 in Britain, fewer than in Spain, Italy and France.

But Britain's epidemic lags behind the rest of the continent by several days, and its death toll trajectory is already steeper than other nations.

Using local and international data on case numbers, as well as age mortality breakdowns from Italy, China and the US, the team at IHME modelled the expected death toll on a country-by-country basis.

A key consideration was an individual nation's intensive care bed capacity.

It found that Britain could experience 66,000 Covid-19 deaths by July, far more than Italy, the next most severely impacted, with around 20,000.

Spain and France were next, with 19,000 and 15,000 predicted deaths, respectively.

"We are expecting a foreboding few weeks for people in many parts of Europe," said IHME Director Christopher Murray.

'I've been an idiot'

NZ's health minister apologises after breaking lockdown

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

New Zealand's health minister has described himself as an "idiot" after he flouted his country's lockdown measures to go on a trip to the beach with his family.

David Clark drove his family 12 miles to the beach in late March during the early stages of the lockdown.

In a statement, Clark, who offered to resign for breaching the restrictions, said: "I've been an idiot, and I understand why people will be angry with me."

He had earlier admitted to driving his van to a park near his home to go mountain biking.

Jacinda Ardern, New Zealand's prime minister, said yesterday that she had not accepted Clark's resignation offer because it would jeopardise the country's coronavirus response.

Ardern said: "Under normal conditions I would sack the minister of health. What he did was wrong, and there are no excuses."

"I expect better, and so does New Zealand," she added.

As a result of his actions, Clark has been demoted to the lowest cabinet ranking and has lost his additional role as associate finance minister.

He is not the only senior official to fall foul of new coronavirus-related restrictions. On Sunday, Scotland's chief medical officer resigned for breaching the UK's lockdown measures by visiting her second home twice.

New Zealand's lockdown measures came into force in late March and will last at least four weeks.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ
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নিউ সার্কিট হাউস রোড
কক্সবাজার-৪৭০০
মুজিববর্ষ অগ্রাধিকার

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-০৫/২০১৯-২০২০ অর্থ সাল

স্মারক নং-১৪৫৫/১ম, তারিখঃ ০৭/০৪/২০২০খ্রিঃ

২০১৯-২০২০ অর্থ বছরের ৪র্থ কোয়ার্টার (এপ্রিল/২০২০-জুন/২০২০খ্রিঃ) জন্য উন্নতমানের মশার জাল, সয়াবিন তৈল সরবরাহের নিমিত্তে দি পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা/২০০৮ অনুসারে নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্ত সাপেক্ষে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে।

১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	স্বরাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রণালয়/জননিরাপত্তা বিভাগ।
২	সংস্থা	বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ।
৩	দরপত্র সম্পাদনকারী প্রধান	পুলিশ সুপার, কক্সবাজার।
৪	কি কারণে দরপত্র আহ্বান	কক্সবাজার জেলা পুলিশ সদস্য সহ অন্যান্য সংস্থার সদস্যদের জন্য উন্নতমানের মশার জাল ও বিএসটিআই কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত ব্রান্ডের সয়াবিন তৈল ক্রয়।
৫	দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র।
৬	বাজেট ও অর্থনৈতিক খাত	রাজস্ব খাত।
৭	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের (আদেশের) তারিখ	০৭/০৪/২০২০খ্রিঃ।
৮	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	২৮/০৪/২০২০খ্রিঃ।
৯	দরপত্র জমা প্রদানের সর্বশেষ তাং ও সময়	২৯/০৪/২০২০খ্রিঃ, দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকা।
১০	দরপত্র বাক্স খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	২৯/০৪/২০২০খ্রিঃ, দুপুর ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা।
১১	দরপত্র মূল্যায়ন সভার তারিখ	২৯/০৪/২০২০খ্রিঃ, দুপুর ১৩.০০ ঘটিকা।
১২	অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা	পুলিশ সুপার, কক্সবাজার এর কার্যালয়।
	দরপত্র ডকুমেন্ট/সিডিউল বিক্রয়কারী অফিস	পুলিশ সুপার, কক্সবাজার এর কার্যালয়।
	দরপত্র গ্রহণকারী অফিস	পুলিশ সুপার, কক্সবাজার এর কার্যালয়।
	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান	পুলিশ সুপার, কক্সবাজার এর কার্যালয়।
১৩	দরপত্রের যোগ্যতা/আবশ্যিক	ব্যাংক ড্রাফট, হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, টিআইএনসহ আয়কর সনদপত্র, ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সনদপত্র, ব্যাংক স্বচ্ছলতার সনদপত্র, এগ্রিকালচারাল সনদপত্র, সরবরাহের অভিজ্ঞতার সনদপত্র, জাতীয়তা সনদপত্র, ফার্মের মালিকানা সনদপত্র।

	আইটেম ভিত্তিক বিবরণ	পরিমাণ (কেজি/ লিটার)	দরপত্রের মূল্য (টাকা) (অফেরতযোগ্য)	নিরাপত্তা জামানত (টাকা)	কাজ সম্পন্ন করার সময়
ক)	ছোটদানা বিশিষ্ট উন্নতমানের মশার জাল (প্রতি ১০ গ্রামে ৬০০ দানার উপরে)	চাহিদা মোতাবেক	৭৫০/-	১,০০,০০০/-	কার্যাদেশ মোতাবেক
খ)	বিএসটিআই কর্তৃক অনুমোদিত ব্রান্ডের সয়াবিন তৈল	চাহিদা মোতাবেক	৭৫০/-	১,০০,০০০/-	কার্যাদেশ মোতাবেক

১৫	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম	জনাব এ বি এম মাসুদ হোসেন, বিপিএম (বার)।
১৬	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী	পুলিশ সুপার।
১৭	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার ঠিকানা	পুলিশ সুপার এর কার্যালয়, কক্সবাজার।
১৮	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম	ফোনঃ ০৩৪১-৬৩২৭০
১৯	বিশেষ শর্তাবলীঃ	
	ক)	কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।
	খ)	সরবরাহযোগ্য জালের বৈশিষ্ট্যসমূহ দরপত্র সিডিউলে উল্লেখ আছে।
	গ)	মশার জাল সরবরাহের ক্ষেত্রে উন্নতমানের স্বচ্ছ পলিপ্যাকে সিডিউলের শর্ত মোতাবেক প্যাকেটজাত করে সরবরাহ করতে হবে।
	ঘ)	দরপত্র পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন/২০০৬, পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা/২০০৮ মোতাবেক শর্তাবলী কার্যকর হইবে।

এ বি এম মাসুদ হোসেন, বিপিএম (বার)
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ফোনঃ ০৩৪১-৬৩২৭০, ফ্যাক্সঃ ০৩৪১-৬৩৮৩৪
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জিডি-৭২৭