Novel Corona Virus (CoViD 19) preparedness in UT of Puducherry

Following the novel corona Virus (CoViD 19) disease outbreak in Wuhan City, as per MoHFW, GoI guidelines, the following measures taken in UT Puducherry, towards Public Health Preparedness:

- Severe Acute Respiratory Illness/ Influenza Like Illness surveillance and pneumonia has been stepped up, through the field health workers of PHCs/CHCs.
- All PHC/CHC medical officers sensitized on Corona virus case definitions and Infection control protocols. Meeting conducted on 24th January 2020 at NHM Training Hall, Puducherry
- IEC/BCC activities stepped up to sensitize health care professionals / staff and public on cough etiquettes and hand washing through PHC/CHC Field workers. People requested to avoid crowded places. Field workers trained on identifying contacts of confirmed cases.
- Necessary steps being taken to identify isolation wards to observe and manage suspected cases and contacts.
- Case definitions and guidelines circulated to all Medical officers and Medical colleges. ([www.mohfw.gov.in](http://www.mohfw.gov.in)) ([www.health.py.gov.in](http://www.health.py.gov.in))
- Similarly Case definitions and guidelines circulated to all private Medical Colleges, Private hospitals and private practitioners through CEA 2010 and IMA.
- Lab guidelines shared with all stakeholders including private medical colleges and hospitals.
- All District Surveillance units have been asked to report on CoViD 19 on daily basis to SSO. All guidelines shared with District Surveillance Units Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam.
- State Infectious diseases Nodal Officer Dr. J. Ramesh, HOD Medicine Indira Gandhi Government General Hospital and Post Graduate Institute (IGGGHPI).
- Airport Health Officer contacted by IDSP Epidemiologist, regarding screening for CoViD 19 and requested information on suspected travellers belonging to Puducherry.
- The Airport at Puducherry handles only one domestic flight but the Airport Authorities are kept in the information loop of CoViD 19. AAI, Puducherry contacted by State Epidemiologist in person. Requested to encourage self reporting of travellers from China.
- The formats for reporting CoViD 19 received from NCDC shared with all Medical Officers of PHCs/CHCs.
- Daily reporting of CoViD 19 has commenced from 23.01.2020.
- DSO Karaikal requested to co – ordinate with Port Health Officer Dr. Senthil Nathan, Identified isolation ward at Government General Hospital Karaikal and 108 Ambulance from nearby PHC to transport sick, suspected case to GGH Karaikal in case identified.
• Logistics: Respirator masks 2000 nos available with DDPH, PPE Kits for influenza 100 nos. available with IDSP division, Puducherry as on 21.02.2020
• Dedicated call center: 0413 2336050/2333644

Medical Officers Meeting regarding CoViD 19 on 24th January 2020

Video Conference regarding CoViD 19 on 27th January 2020

• Video Conference for Novel Corona Virus (CoViD 19) preparedness conducted at NIC Video Conference Centre by MoHFW, GOI on 27th January 2020 at 11.00 a.m. onwards. Puducherry team under the chairmanship of Secretary (Health), Director (Health), Mission Director, Deputy Director (Public Health), State Nodal Officer for infectious diseases, representatives from District Head Quarters Hospital, Women & Children Hospital, State Medical College and State IDSP Unit participated. Secretary (Health) reviewed the preparedness for CoViD 19 in the UT and suggested measures for improving the same.
• A CME was conducted in District Headquarters Hospital, Indira Gandhi Govt General Hospital & Post Graduate Institute, Puducherry at 1 PM to sensitize the Medical officers and Specialists in the Institution regarding the Virus, it's epidemiological data so far as well as steps to be taken to prevent spread among HCWs and the community.

• Head of Office meeting on Public Health Preparedness conducted on 28.01.2020, Importance decisions on arrangements for strengthening SARI/ILI cases, handling emergency situation, tracing of passengers under observation, tracing their contacts, organising for 24 hours call centre, identifying tertiary care facility and logistics discussed and decided at 11.00 am.

  Head of Office meeting 28.02.2020 CoViD 19 preparedness

• Video conference and CME with districts conducted on 29th January 2020, with stakeholders of other districts like Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam. All sensitized on the current situation of CoViD 19 and public health preparedness.

  CME with districts through NIC Video Conference
• CME on CoViD 19 for all the Medical professionals and Staff conducted at RGGW&CH, Puducherry on 29th January 2020.
• Video conference on CoViD 19 with Secretary Health of all states and UTs by Cabinet Secretary conducted from Video Conference Hall NIC, Chief Secretariat, Puducherry held on 30th January 2020. Puducherry team headed was by Secretary Finance, Dr. Nimal Joe from RoHFW Chennai, Director Health, Deputy Director Public Health, Dr. Saira Bhanu, SMO, WHO, Nodal Officer Infectious Diseases, IDSP and stakeholder form Government hospitals, medical colleges and Private Medical Colleges participated. Following this Experts Dr. Nirmal Joe and Dr. Saira Bhanu reviewed the UT preparedness for CoViD 19.

Video conference by Cabinet secretary with states & UTs on 30th January 2020

Airport Puducherry visited by state Epidemiologist, IDSP on 30.01.2020; there are only 2 private (Spice jet) domestic flights from Hyderabad and Bangalore, Airport Authority of India briefed on the situation of CoViD 19. APHO at Chennai contacted over phone requested to guide Airport Puducherry.

Communications sent to Senior Superintendent of Police, Hotel Association Head, Aurobindo Ashram and Airport Authority of India, Puducherry requesting to enable self-reporting of travelers to China in the last 4 weeks as Puducherry is a tourist hub.

Identified ambulance to transport suspect CoViD 19 cases is from state Medical College.
Directorate of Health, UT Puducherry distributed PPE Kits and N95 masks to districts, Identified institutions and ambulance to meet out any emergency.

Training for sample mobilization, PPE Donning and Doffing and IPC from Govt. institutions, ambulance drivers carried out jointly by IDSP & JIPMER on 3rd January 2020.

Training for sample mobilization and suspected case transportation at RVRDL 3rd January 2020

Video Conference training with districts of Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam sample mobilization, PPE Donning and Doffing and IPC from Govt. institutions, ambulance drivers carried out jointly by IDSP & RVRDL JIPMER on 4th January 2020 through NIC Video Conference from Chief Secretariat, Puducherry.

Field Health Care Workers, Health Inspectors and Health Assistants 105 members and 200 ANMS, sensitized on Novel Corona Virus, 14 days home quarantine of travelers from China, when to refer to isolation ward, reassuring travelers under quarantine and self protection of HCWs carried out on 3rd, 5th and 7th February.
Video conference attended by Nodal Officer Infection Control and IDSP conducted by Cabinet Secretary with other stakeholders and all States and UTs of the country through NIC Video Conferencing from Chief Secretariat, Puducherry 4th January 2020.

IDSP & RVRDL JIPMER VC training with districts

Video Conference attended by Health Secretary, SMO – WHO, Nodal Officer infectious diseases, SSO IDSP, State Epidemiologist, Representatives from JIPMER and Government institutions were present on 7th February 2020. This followed by review by Health secretary on activities of UT Puducherry towards CoViD 19 preparedness and prevention. Discussion on updates on CoViD 19 and related issues discussed.

The Web portal ncdc.nhp.gov.in provided to capture CoViD 19 data, Puducherry information submitted.

Mail communication to Director Tourism to instruct all hotels with IEC material, share information on travellers from China/Hong Kong to IDSP and direct sick travellers to GHCD/JIPMER under the instruction of Health Secretary, Puducherry on 08th January 2020

Karaikal team screened the crew of ships docking at the private cargo port at Karaikal. So far 4 ship crew screened by Karaikal team lead by Medical Officer T.R.Pattinam, Karaikal.

Cabinet Secretary Video Conference at 11.00 am attended form Chief Secretariat Puducherry, Health Secretary, Director Health, Nodal Officer Infectious diseases, IDSP, representatives from JIPMER, RGGWCH and IGMC&RI attended the meeting. Current criteria for suspected CoViD 19 case discussed on 10th January 2020

Video Conference on nhp portal attended by IDSP, through Zoom.
The Medical Officer re - sensitized on the current case definitions, and updated scenario of CoViD 19, and modification in capturing data history and field activities discussed. All medical Officers of the PHC/CHCs and ESI hospital and dispensaries of Puducherry attended the CME session organized by IDSP to fine tune surveillance of ILI/SARI in the state as per MoHFW updates on 11th January 2020.
Aurobindo Ashram visited by State Epidemiologist and information on tourists visiting the premises from China requested. Emergency helpline numbers and IDSP numbers shared with them for public display in the Ashram 11th February 2020.

Live chat show on Prevention of Corona virus disease CoViD 19 Doordharshan on 11th February 2020. 17hrs to 18 hrs

Video Conference on CoViD 19 attended by Honorable Health Secretary, Director Health, Deputy Director Public Health, State IDSP team, HoD P&SM State Medical College, State Nodal Officer for VRDL Network on 14th February 2020.

Passengers under observation followed up daily from Field and by IDSP.

**UT Puducherry CoViD 19 Status**

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Daily data shared with WHO – SMO Puducherry.