



NATIONAL APEX CHAMBER

CALIBRATED APPROACH TO EXIT FROM LOCKDOWN

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PHD RESEARCH BUREAU

PHD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

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Calibrated Approach to Exit from Lockdown

PHD Chamber's Viewpoint



Dr D K Aggarwal
President

The proactive and combative measures undertaken by the Government to curtail the spread of pandemic COVID-19 are highly appreciable. PHD Chamber stands in complete solidarity with the government and have been extending its full-fledged support to the government and its countrymen. We urge the government to provide an increased stimulus relief package of Rs 16 lakh crore which is around 7% of GDP sooner than later to mitigate the impact of Pandemic COVID-19 on economy, trade and Industry through various relief measures and benefits. Going ahead, it is suggested that a calibrated approach to exit from lockdown and resume economic activities is significant at this juncture across all the sectors and states (except the heavily affected areas).



Shri Sanjay Aggarwal
Senior Vice President

Government's proactive and fast track measures to safeguard its people, economy, trade and industry against the wild tide of pandemic COVID-19 are appreciable. Incentive plan to restart economic activities, after a strict vigilant check by the government and the state authorities, in districts and areas which will show a downfall in the spread and number of Covid -19 patients by 20th April, 2020, will go a long way in helping the daily wagers, poor and the needy and also boost the morale of trade and industry. Further, it is suggested to defer the EMIs of the term-loans for 6 months, special interest subvention @ 3% in loans to MSMEs and other badly affected industries; to abolish all fixed charges of all the utilities and defer all utilities' bills by 3 months are crucial at this juncture.



Shri Pradeep Multani
Vice President

The reforms undertaken by the Government to contain the spread of pandemic COVID-19 in India are highly encouraging. The opening up of economic and business activity in least impacted areas would help many daily wagers to return back on work and help the businesses to resume activities with lot of precautions and safety measures advised by the government. Some of the long terms measures that must be undertaken include reducing income tax of the proprietorship and LLPs firms to the level of 25% for old and 15% for new companies; release of outstanding payments of MSMEs, from the Government and PSUs; rationalisation of GST rate structure by merging 18% tax slab with 12% tax slab, among others are necessary to enhance the competitiveness of businesses.



Shri Saurabh Sanyal
Secretary General

The proactive and fast track measures undertaken by the Government to combat the impact of pandemic COVID-19 on trade and industry are highly appreciable. At this juncture, increase in government consumption expenditure and capacity building by the business firms would be crucial to rejuvenate the economy to its potential growth trajectory of 7-8% in the next few years. Further, reducing the customs duties on basic raw materials by at least 5 percentage points; further reduction of 100 basis points repo rate cut are necessary to enhance the competitiveness of manufacturers.

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Executive Summary

The growing severity of the impact caused by the widespread pandemic COVID-19, on our economy, its people and the Nation as a whole is a matter of deep concern. Globally, around 22 lakh people across 200 countries are impacted due to pandemic COVID-19 of which 1.5 lakh people have died and around 6 lakh people have recovered so far. At domestic front, number of affected people due to COVID-19 in India are 13,495 of which 1,777 have recovered and 448 have died so far. The timely proactive and combative measures undertaken by the Government to curtail the spread of pandemic COVID-19 are highly appreciable.

The recent reform measures by the government in terms of fiscal support of Rs. 1.70 lakh crore, Rs. 15,000 crore towards the build-up of health infrastructure, issuance of Rs 18,000 crore pending refunds of income-tax, GST & custom by IT Department, among others at this juncture are very crucial to contain the impact of pandemic COVID-19. Further, calibrated steps taken by RBI will strengthen financial system including cut in repo rate, CRR and moratorium on payments to provide liquidity, cut in reverse repo rate will enhance credit flow to trade, industry and people, among others.

In the backdrop of proactive measures by the Government to contain the spread of pandemic COVID-19, the total number of COVID-19 cases in India has been rising at a decelerating rate. There were 1,998 cases of coronavirus in India as on 1st April 2020 with a growth rate of 43% over the previous day. However, the cases have increased to 13,430 by 16th April 2020 but at a decelerating growth rate of 8.6% over the previous day. The government's efforts have helped in maintaining the low rate of spread of infection, with one in every 24 samples testing positive. Before the strategy of lockdown was implemented the doubling rate of COVID-19 cases was about 3 days, but now the doubling rate of cases now stands at 6.2 days.

At this juncture, a calibrated approach should be adopted by the Government that brings about a fine balance between normalizing economic and social activity and containing the spread of pandemic COVID-19. This would enable the country to witness a V-shaped recovery in the economic growth trajectory rather than a U-shaped recovery. In the current year also we should target a growth rate of more than 4% as we can't afford a less than two percent growth.

PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry has prepared a calibrated approach to exit from lockdown and revive the economic growth trajectory affected by the impact of pandemic COVID-19. The post lockdown exit strategy has been outlined as per the bifurcation of the districts specified by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. Every district of the country has been divided into: Hotspot districts, Non-hotspot districts and Green Zone.

The hotspot districts are the districts where i) either the number of cases is high or where ii) rate of growth of COVID-19 cases is high or in other words, the doubling time of cases is low. In these districts, only supply of essential goods and services should be allowed with smooth inter-state movement of essential goods along with ready availability of health and medical services. The non-hotspot districts are the districts where cases have been reported and appropriate steps are being undertaken by the Government to control the spread by issuing



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various advisories. It is suggested that 25% of the workforce may be allowed in all activities of area including government, economic, business, trade and industry, among others expect public gatherings with strict adherence to social distancing and precautionary measures.

In the Green zone, those states/ districts would be covered where there are no COVID-19 positive cases. Even if there were positive COVID-19 cases in these areas, they have been suitably cured/ addressed by the Government. There are around 400 districts in India that are COVID-19 free. It is suggested that 50% workforce may be allowed from 20th April 2020 in all activities of area including government, economic, business, trade and industry, among others expect public gatherings with strict adherence to social distancing and precautionary measures

Further, considering the cruciality of backward and forward linkages of business firms, it becomes necessary to enable the entire supply chain of trade and industry to resume their activities together and not in isolation (except hotspots districts) after adopting the necessary health guidelines.

It has been observed that India is highly integrated internally, with considerable flows of both people and goods. According to Economic Survey 2017-18, Government of India, internal trade of goods and services stands at 60% of India's GDP. Further, keeping in view the significance and complementarities of inter-industry trade, it is crucial at this juncture to resume the industrial activities across all the states and sectors simultaneously barring the hotspot areas.

Hence, it is suggested that economic activities may be started as soon as possible in all the states across all industries/ sectors and not just a few states (except those areas/ districts that have been identified as hotspots of spread of COVID-19 by the Government) by adopting a calibrated approach with necessary compliance of health guidelines, precautionary measures and prohibiting public gatherings.

Further, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry urges the Government to provide an increased stimulus relief package of Rs 16 lakh crore which is around 7% of GDP sooner than later to mitigate the impact of pandemic COVID-19. A significant stimulus of 7% of GDP sooner than later would help the economy to grow at around 5% in the current financial year 2020-21 too and covert the U shape recovery in V shape and save lakhs of job losses. This will go a long way in boosting the morale of the industry and help the economy bounce back post the lockdown.

In a nutshell, PHD Chamber stands in complete solidarity with the Government and pledges to extend its wholehearted support, in whatever means required and possible, to help the Nation stand against the wild tide of pandemic COVID-19, overcome its adverse impact and come out victorious by defeating the pandemic COVID-19 virus. It is suggested that a calibrated approach to exit from lockdown and resume economic activities is significant at this juncture across all the sectors and states (except the heavily affected areas where there are large number of positive COVID-19 cases). We are optimistic that India will emerge victorious in the fight against pandemic COVID- 19 by safeguarding both lives and livelihoods of its countrymen.

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1. Introduction

The pandemic COVID-19 has been spreading rapidly around the world. The whole mankind is in huge problem and uncertainty about the severity and spread of pandemic Covid-19. Many countries are struggling to contain the spread of the pandemic COVID-19 while avoiding a dramatic decline in economic activity. Therefore, Governments around the world are undertaking decisive steps to limit the human and economic impact of pandemic COVID-19.

PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry stands in complete solidarity with the Government and pledges to extend its wholehearted support, in whatever means required and possible, to help the Nation stand against the wild tide of pandemic COVID-19, overcome its adverse impact and come out victorious by defeating the deadly virus.

In India, the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi called for a complete lockdown of the entire nation on 24th March 2020 for 21 days in an effort to contain the pandemic COVID-19. The decision was taken from the experiences of health sector experts and experiences of other countries and that 21 days is essential to break the chain of infection. Accordingly, the Government announced guidelines to be strictly followed during the period including social distancing practices without any impact on the supply of necessary and essential items to the citizens of the nation.

PHD Chamber appreciates the Government for undertaking proactive and fast track measures to combat the impact of pandemic COVID-19 on economy, trade and industry. We appreciate the recent reform measures by the Government in terms of fiscal support of Rs. 1.70 lakh crore, Rs. 15,000 crores towards the build-up of health infrastructure, issuance of Rs 18,000 crore pending refunds of income-tax, GST & customs by the IT Department, among others.

Considering the rising number of positive COVID-19 cases, lockdown to control the spread of pandemic COVID-19 has been extended till 3rd May 2020 wherein select additional activities have been allowed from 20th April 2020 including MGNREGA works, coal, mines and mineral production, construction of roads, irrigation projects, buildings, industrial projects including MSMEs in rural areas, among others. As on 15th April 2020, there have been 11,439 confirmed cases and 377 deaths due to pandemic COVID-19 in the country. As many as 1306 persons have been cured/discharged after recovery.

PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry welcomes Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji's decision to extend the lockdown period till 3rd May 2020. The seven-point precautionary guidelines announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister are highly appreciable and will have a significant impact to mitigate the spread of pandemic Covid-19 and its complete removal from our country.

Amid further containment of pandemic COVID-19, India should work ahead to exit from the lockdown in a calibrated manner and resume business and production. We are hopeful that the incentive plan to restart economic activities, after a strict vigilant check by the Government and the State authorities in districts and areas exhibiting a downfall in the spread and number of COVID-19 patients by 20th April 2020, will go a long way in helping the daily wagers, poor and the needy and also boost the morale of trade and industry.

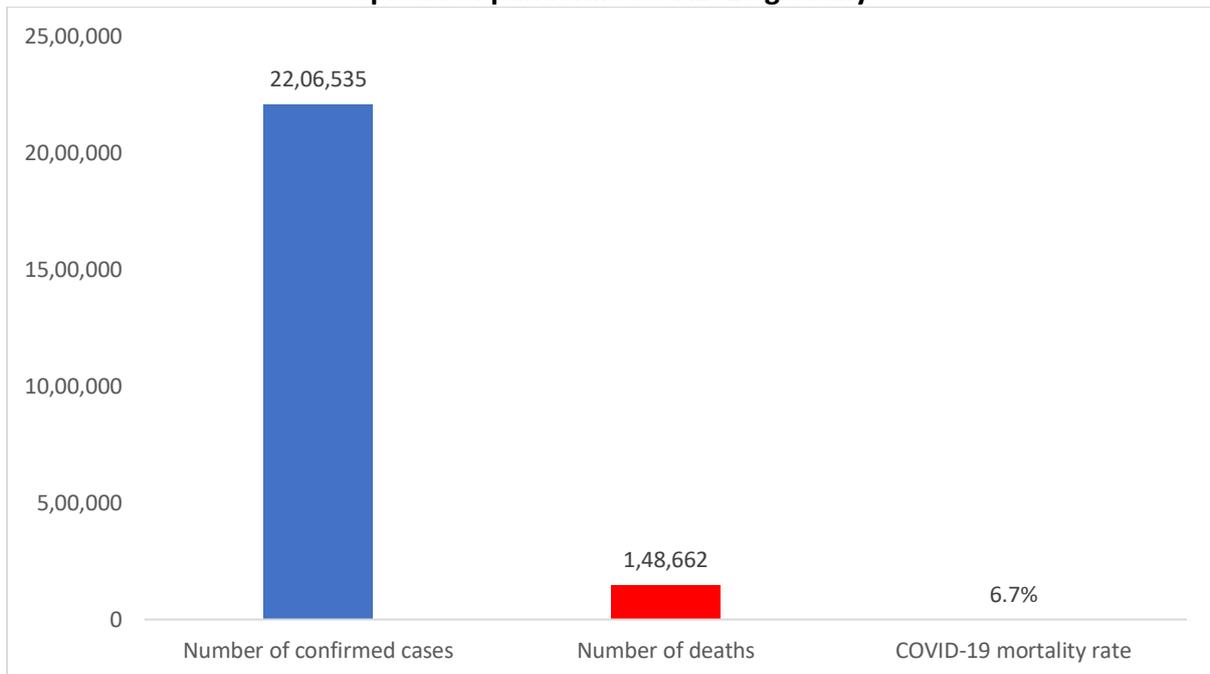
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2. Spread of pandemic COVID-19 globally

The rapid outbreak of the pandemic COVID-19 presents an alarming health crisis that the world is facing. The severity of the pandemic is increasing each day and has been spreading rapidly around the world. The outbreak was declared a Public Health Emergency of international Concern on 30th January 2020. The whole mankind in the world is in huge problem and uncertainty about the severity and spread of pandemic COVID-19.

Around 2206535 cases have been confirmed since the outbreak started and the death toll has reached around 148662. Countries such as China, USA, Italy, Spain, France, Germany, among others have been severely affected due to the spread of pandemic COVID-19 in recent times. The World Health Organization (WHO) is working 24/7 to analyse data, provide advice, coordinate with partners, help countries prepare, increase supplies and manage expert networks.

Spread of pandemic COVID-19 globally



Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI, compiled from worldometers as on 17th April 2020.

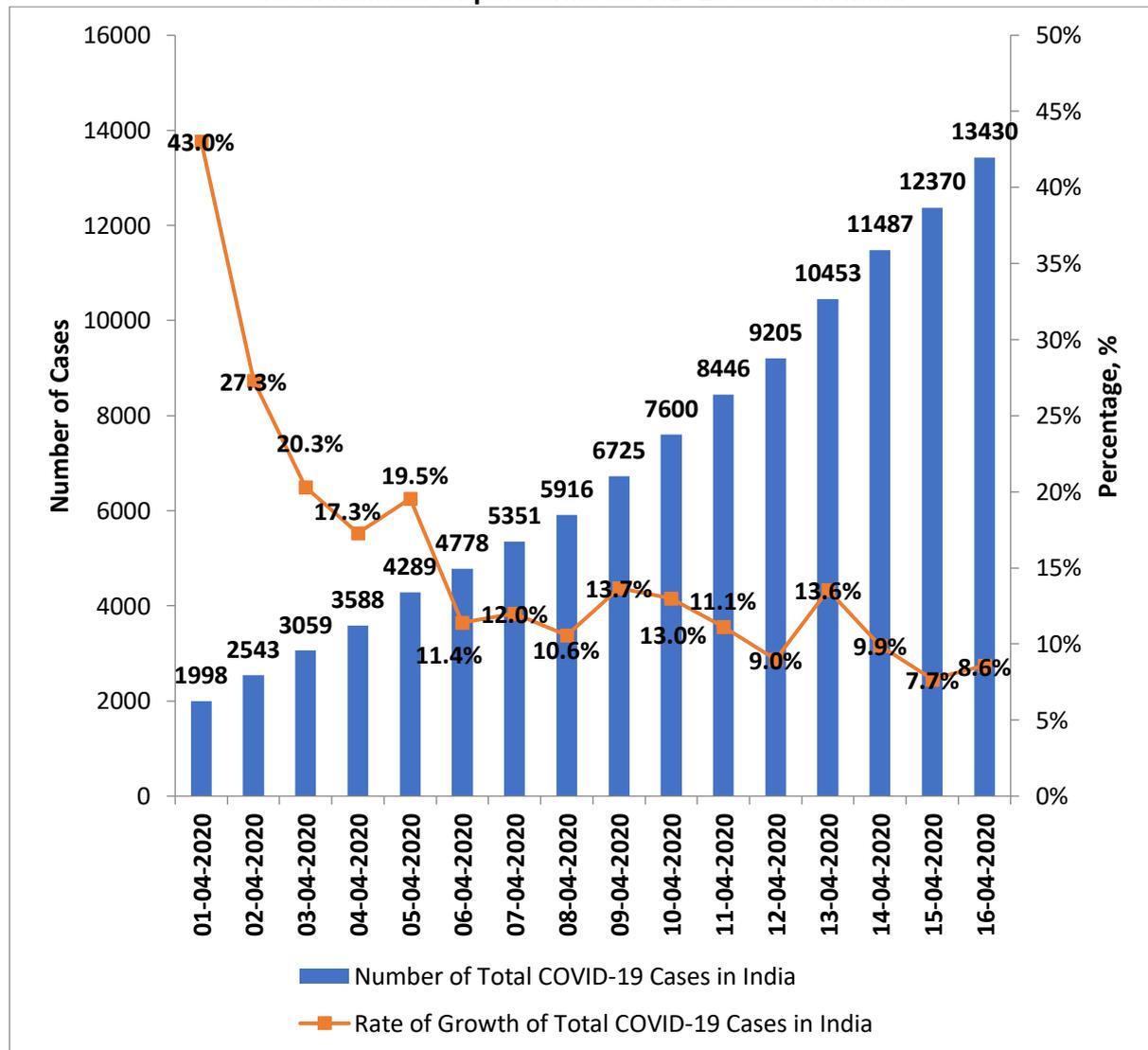
Countries face different levels of risk and vulnerability to pandemic COVID-19 and will require different levels of support. At this juncture, Governments across the globe have devised effective measures to combat the pandemic and its economic impact. There is a need for ensuring the availability of well-resourced public health facilities to prevent further infection and contagion and implement well-targeted policies to support healthcare systems. In addition, it becomes important to extend timely protection to the vulnerable social groups and businesses during the health emergency.

3. Spread of pandemic COVID-19 in India

The total number of pandemic COVID-19 cases has been rising at a decelerating rate since 1st April 2020. There were 1998 cases of coronavirus in India as on 1st April 2020. However, the cases have increased to 13430 by 16th April 2020. The government maintained that the rate of infection is low, with one in every 24 samples testing positive.

Before the strategy of lockdown was implemented the doubling rate of COVID19 cases was about 3 days, but now the doubling rate of cases now stands at 6.2 days. India is currently under a nationwide lockdown which started on March 25, 2020. Initially the lockdown was announced for 21-days till April 14, however, it has been extended till May 3. Now pandemic COVID-19 cases continue to surge across the country. India has taken proactive action of imposing a nationwide lockdown in its fight against coronavirus.

Total Number of pandemic COVID-19 Cases in India

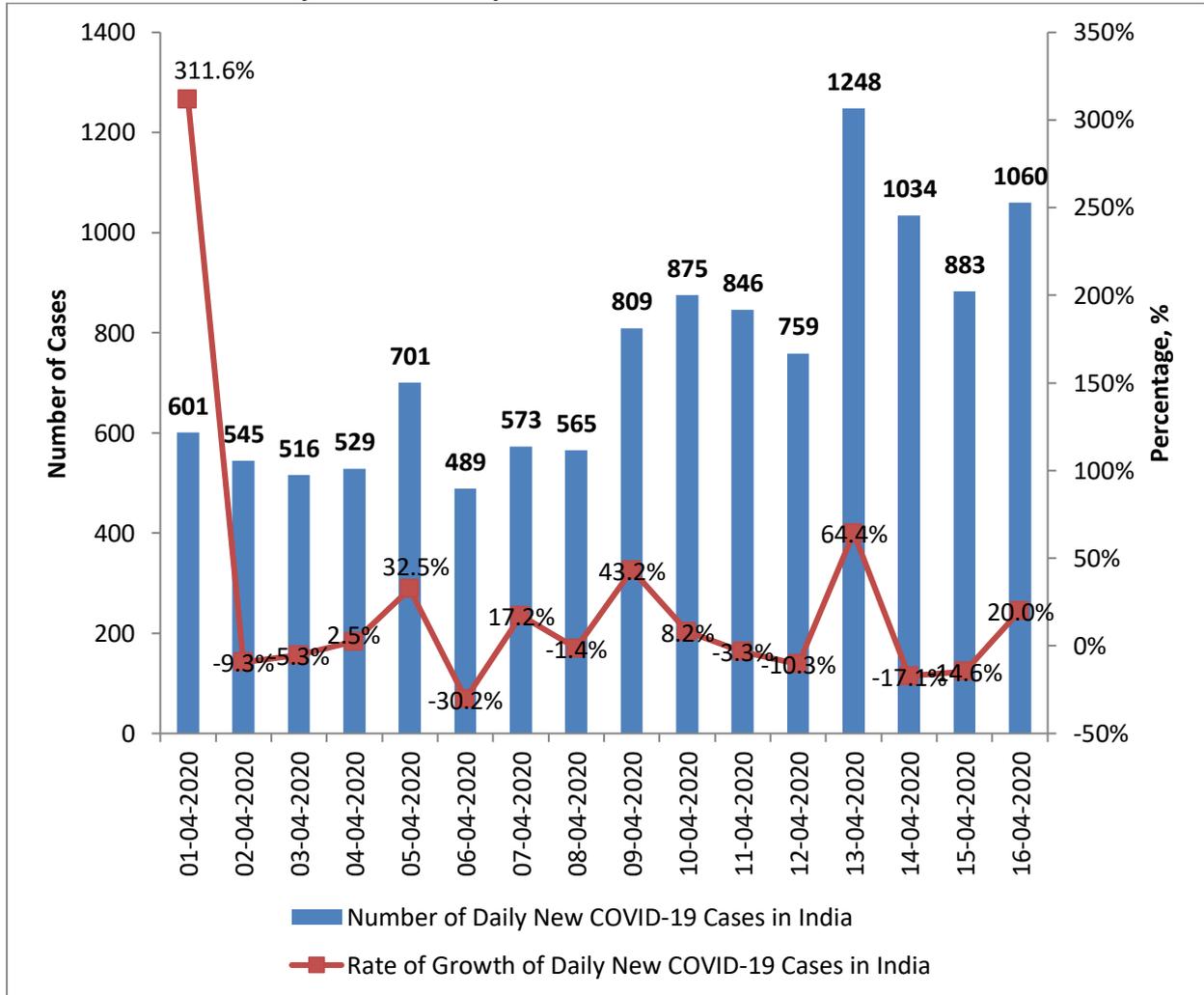


Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI compiled from various sources

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The rates of growth of daily new cases of pandemic COVID-19 have been depicting a volatile trend since 1st April 2020; though the daily new cases have risen in absolute numbers from 601 on 1st April 2020 to 1060 on 16th April 2020.

Daily new cases of pandemic COVID-19 Cases in India



Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from various sources

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4. State wise cases of pandemic COVID-19 in India

The states and UTs that are totally locked down and the total number of coronavirus cases in India have risen at a rapid pace. Meanwhile, 1749 patients have been cured of the virus or discharged. With 3205 Covid-19 cases, Maharashtra is the worst affected state, followed by Delhi (1640), Tamil Nadu (1267), Rajasthan (1131), Madhya Pradesh (1120), Gujarat (930), Uttar Pradesh (805) and Telangana (700).

On April 14, the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi extended the nationwide lockdown till May 3 but the government plans to open up some industries in rural areas after April 20 to mitigate the impact of hardship to the public.

The following table depicts the total cases of COVID-19 detected in each state wherein Maharashtra has the highest number of pandemic COVID-19 detected cases followed by Delhi with 1640 detected cases of COVID-19.

State wise cases of pandemic COVID-19 in India

S. No.	Name of State / UT	Total Confirmed cases (Including 76 foreign Nationals)	Cured/Discharged/	Death	Mortality Rate
			Migrated		
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	11	10	0	0.0%
2	Andhra Pradesh	534	20	14	2.6%
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	0	0.0%
4	Assam	35	5	1	2.9%
5	Bihar	80	37	1	1.3%
6	Chandigarh	21	9	0	0.0%
7	Chhattisgarh	33	23	0	0.0%
8	Delhi	1640	51	38	2.3%
9	Goa	7	6	0	0.0%
10	Gujarat	930	73	36	3.9%
11	Haryana	205	43	3	1.5%
12	Himachal Pradesh	35	16	1	2.9%
13	Jammu and Kashmir	314	38	4	1.3%
14	Jharkhand	28	0	2	7.1%
15	Karnataka	315	82	13	4.1%

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16	Kerala	395	245	3	0.8%
17	Ladakh	18	14	0	0.0%
18	Madhya Pradesh	1120	64	53	4.7%
19	Maharashtra	3205	300	194	6.1%
20	Manipur	2	1	0	0.0%
21	Meghalaya	7	0	1	14.3%
22	Mizoram	1	0	0	0.0%
23	Nagaland#	0	0	0	NA
24	Odisha	60	19	1	1.7%
25	Puducherry	7	1	0	0.0%
26	Punjab	186	27	13	7.0%
27	Rajasthan	1131	164	3	0.3%
28	Tamil Nadu	1267	180	15	1.2%
29	Telangana	700	186	18	2.6%
30	Tripura	2	1	0	0.0%
31	Uttarakhand	37	9	0	0.0%
32	Uttar Pradesh	805	74	13	1.6%
32	West Bengal	255	51	10	3.9%
Total number of confirmed cases in India		13387*	1749	437	3.3%

Source: PHD Research Bureau, compiled from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Data as on 17th April 2020)

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5. District wise cases of pandemic COVID-19 in India

The Severity of pandemic COVID-19 is increasing each day. India is currently battling its health exigencies in the form of corona virus outbreak that is spreading rapidly across the states/districts of the country. Way forward, these health exigencies has put immense pressure on the country's healthcare system and the economy has been severely disrupted.

The first case of COVID-19 in India was reported on January 30 in Kerala's Thrissur district which has multifold its numbers into 9756 so far with over 377 deaths in the country. Maharashtra, New Delhi and Tamil Nadu positioned as the worst hit state with a total number of 2687, 1561 and 1204 respectively.

Seeing the rapid growth in new infections, the district administration sprang into action swiftly and pursued an aggressive model of containing the spread of pandemic virus, involving a variety of measures. The centre and the state to combat the spread of pandemic COVID-19 have extended the lockdown till 3rd May, 2020. Thus, Indian Government are consistently taking proactive measures to support their residents and patients by providing real time medical aid, relief funding, food, shelter and other necessities which is the need of the hour for the people struggling amid the restrictions of pandemic COVID-19.

State/District Wise Cases of Pandemic COVID-19

S.No.	State	No of Districts Affected	Districts	No of Positive cases
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLAND	1	SOUTH ANDAMAN	11
				11
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	11	ANANTAPUR	13
			CHITTOOR	19
			EAST GODAVARI	12
			GUNTUR	51
			KADAPA	30
			KRISHNA	35
			KURNOOL	75
			NELLORE	48
			PRAKASAM	38
			VISAKHAPATNAM	20
			WEST GODAVARI	22
				363
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	1	LOHIT	1
				1
4	ASSAM	12	CACHAR	1

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			DHUBRI	2
			GOALPARA	3
			GOLAGHAT	9
			HAILAKANDI	1
			KAMRUP	1
			KAMRUP METRO	1
			KARIMGANJ	1
			LAKHIMPUR	1
			MARIGAON	4
			NALBARI	4
			S MANCACHAR	1
				29
5	BIHAR	11	BEGUSARAI	5
			BHAGALPUR	1
			GAYA	5
			GOPALGANJ	3
			LAKHISARAI	1
			MUNGER	8
			NALANDA	1
			NAWADA	1
			PATNA	5
			SARAN	1
			SIWAN	29
	60			
6	CHANDIGARH UT	1	CHANDIGARH	18
				18
7	CHHATISGARH	5	BILASPUR	1
			DURG	1
			KORBA	2
			RAIPUR	5
			RAJNANDGAON	1
	10			
8	DELHI	11*	CENTRAL DELHI	19
			EAST DELHI	17
			NEW DELHI	17
			NORTH DELHI	21
			NORTH EAST DELHI	12
			NORTH WEST DELHI	12
			SHAHADARA	26
			SOUTH DELHI	332

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			SOUTH EAST	26
			SOUTH WEST DELHI	16
			WEST DELHI	25
				375*
9	GOA	2	NORTH GOA	6
			SOUTH GOA	1
				7
10	GUJARAT	18	AHMEDABAD	134
			ANAND	2
			BHAVNAGAR	18
			CHHOTA UDEPUR	2
			DAHOD	1
			GANDHI NAGAR	13
			GIR SOMNATH	2
			JAMNAGAR	1
			KUTCH	2
			MAHESANA	2
			MORBI	1
			PANCHMAHAL	1
			PATAN	5
			PORBANDAR	3
			RAJKOT	11
			SABARKANTHA	1
			SURAT	24
			VADODARA	18
				241
11	HARYANA	17*	AMBALA	4
			BHIWANI	2
			CHARKHI DADRI	1
			FARIDABAD	28
			FATEHABAD	1
			GURGAON	32
			HISSAR	1
			JIND	1
			KAITHAL	2
			KARNAL	5
				77
			NUH	38
			PALWAL	28
			PANCHKULA	2
			PANIPAT	4
			ROHTAK	1
			SIRSA	3

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			SONEPAT	2
				14
12	HIMACHAL PRADESH	5	CHAMBA	4
			KANGRA	4
			SIRMAUR	7
			SOLAN	7
			UNA	6
				28
13	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	12*	BADGAM	10
			BANDIPORA	36
			BARAMULLA	25
			GANDERBAL	2
			JAMMU	18
			KULGAM	3
			KUPWARA	8
			PULWAMA	3
			RAJOURI	3
			SHOPIAN	13
			SRINAGAR	50
			UDHAMPUR	11
				182
14	JHARKHAND	3	BOKARO	5
			HAZARIBAGH	1
			RANCHI	7
				14
15	KARNATAKA	19	BAGALKOTE	8
			BALLARI	6
			BBMP	45
			BELAGAVI	10
			BENGALURU (R)	2
			BENGALURU (U)	24
			BIDAR	10
			CHIKKABALLAPUR	9
			DAKSHIN KANNADA	12
			DAVANAGERE	3
			DHARWAD	2
			GADAG	1
			KALBURGI	9
			KODAGU	1
			MANDYA	5
			MYSURU	37
TUMAKURU	1			
UDUPI	3			

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			UTTARA KANNADA	9
				197
16	KERALA	14	ALAPPUZHA	5
			CANNANORE(KANNUR)	64
			ERNAKULAM	24
			IDUKKI	9
			KASARAGODE	155
			KOLLAM	9
			KOTTAYAM	6
			KOZHICODE (CALICUT)	15
			MALAPPURAM	17
			PALAKKAD	7
			PATHANAMTHITTA	14
			THIRUVANANTHAPURAM	15
			THRISSUR	14
			WYANAD	3
	357			
17	LADAKH	2	KARGIL	3
			LEH (LADAKH)	12
				15
18	MADHYA PRADESH	12	BARWANI	3
			BETUL	1
			BHOPAL	83
			CHINDWARA	2
			GWALIOR	6
			INDORE	123
			JABALPUR	8
			KHARGON	4
			MORENA	13
			SHIVPURI	2
			UJJAIN	13
			VIDISHA	1
	259			
19	MAHARASHTRA	27	AHMEDNAGAR	23
			AKOLA	9
			AMRAVATI	4
			AURANGABAD	17
			BEED	1
			BULDHANA	11
			GONDIA	1
			HINGOLI	1
			JALGAON	2
			JALNA	1

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			KOLHAPUR	5
			LATUR	8
			MUMBAI	873
			MUMBAI SUB Ur	7
			NAGPUR	25
			NASHIK	7
			OSMANABAD	4
			PALAGHAR	3
			PUNE	190
			RAIGAD	2
			RATNAGIRI	4
			SANGLI	26
			SATARA	6
			SINDHUDURG (KUDAL)	2
			THANE	110
			WASHIM	1
			YAVATMAL	21
				1364
20	MANIPUR	1*	THOUBAL	1
				1
21	MIZORAM	1	AIZWAL WEST	1
22	ODISHA	8	BHADRAK	3
			CUTTACK	2
			DHENKANAL	1
			JAJPUR	1
			KALAHANDI	1
			KENDRAPARA	1
			KHURDA (BHUVANESHWAR)	34
			PURI	1
				45
23	PUDUCHERRY	2	MAHE	1
			PONDICHERRY	4
				5
24	PUNJAB	17	AMRITSAR	11
			BARNALA	2
			FARIDKOT	2
			FATEHGARH SAHIB (SARHIND)	2
			HOSHIARPUR	7
			JALANDHAR	11
			KAPURTHALA	1
			LUDHIANA	10

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			MANSA	11
			MOGA	4
			MUKTSAR	1
			NAWANSHAHR (SBS Nagar)	19
			PATHANKOT	7
			PATIALA	1
			RUPNAGAR	3
			SANGRUR	2
			SASNAGAR	38
				132
25	RAJASTHAN	24	AJMER	5
			ALWAR	5
			BANSWARA	12
			BARMER	1
			BHARATPUR	8
			BHILWARA	28
			BIKANER	20
			CHURU	11
			DAUSA	6
			DHOLPUR	1
			DUNGARPUR	5
			JAIPUR	170
			JAISALMER	19
			JHALAWAR	9
			JHUNJHUNU	31
			JODHPUR	34
			KARAULI	2
			KOTA	17
			NAGOUR	1
			PALI	2
			PRATAPGARH	2
			SIKAR	1
			TONK	27
			UDAIPUR	4
			Iran Evacuees	42
				463
26	TAMIL NADU	33*	ARIYALUR	1
			CHENGALPATTU	23
			CHENNAI	149
			COIMBATORE	60
			CUDDALORE	13
			DINDIGUL	45
			ERODE	32

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			KALLAKURICHI	2
			KANCHEEPURAM	7
			KARUR	22
			MADURAI	24
			NAGAPATTINAM	11
			NAGERKOIL (KANYAKUMARI)	6
			NAMAKKAL	28
			PERAMBALUR	1
			RAMANATHAPURAM	2
			RANIPET	28
			SALEM	11
			SIVAGANGAI	5
			THANJAVUR	11
			THENI	24
			THIRUVALLUR	12
			THIRUVARUR	12
			THOOTHUKUDI	17
			TIRUCHIRAPALLI	30
			TIRUNELVELI	38
			TIRUPATTUR	11
			TIRUPPUR	20
			TIRUVANNAMALAI	9
			UDAGAMANDALAM	4
			VELLORE	5
			VILLUPURAM	16
			VIRUDHUNAGAR	11
				609
27	TELANGANA	27	ADILABAD	11
			BHUPALPALLY (JAYASHANKER)	2
			GADWAL (JOGULAMBA)	22
			HYDERABAD	213
			HYDERABAD RURAL (RANGA REDDY)	23
			JAGITYAL	3
			JANAGOAN	2
			KAMAREDDY	10
			KARIMNAGAR	18
			KHAMMAM	2
			KOTHAGUDEM (BADADRI)	4
			MAHABOONNAGAR	11
			MAHABUBABAD	1

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			MEDAK	5
			MEDCHAL	18
			MULUGU	2
			NAGARKURNOOL	2
			NALGONDA	14
			NIRMAL	15
			NIZAMABAD	45
			PEDDAPALLY	2
			SANGAREDDY	8
			SIDDIPET	1
			SURYAPET	10
			VIKARABAD	5
			WARANGAL	22
			WARANGAL(RURAL)	2
				473
28	TRIPURA	1	GOMATI	1
				1
29	UTTAR PRADESH	40*	AGRA	83
			ALLAHABAD	1
			AURAIYA	1
			AZAMGARH	4
			BAGHPAT	5
			BANDA	2
			BARA-BANKI	1
			BAREILLY	6
			BASTI	8
			BIJNOR	1
			BUDAUN	1
			BULANDSHAHAR	8
			FIROZABAD	10
			GAUTAM BUDHA NAGAR	65
			GHAZIABAD	25
			GHAZIPUR	5
			HARDOI	2
			Hapur	3
			HATHRAS	4
			JAUNPUR	4
			Amroha	2
			KANPUR	9
			KAUSHAMBI	2
			LAKHIMPUR KHERI	4
			LUCKNOW	29
			MAHARAJGANJ	6

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			MATHURA	2
			MEERUT	38
			MIRZAPUR	2
			MORADABAD	1
			MUZAFFAR NAGAR	4
			PILIBHIT	2
			PRATAPGARH	6
			RAE-BAREILLY	2
			RAMPUR	5
			SAHARANPUR	20
			SHAHJAHANPUR	1
			SHAMLI	17
			SITAPUR	10
			VARANASI	9
				410
30	UTTARAKHAND	6	ALMORA	1
			DEHRADUN	18
			HARIDWAR	3
			NAINITAL	8
			PAURI GARHWAL	1
			UDHAMSINGH NAGAR	4
				35
31	WEST BENGAL	10*	HOOGHLY	4
			HOWRAH	7
			JALPAIGURI	4
			KALIMPOMG	7
			KOLKATA	29
			NADIA	5
			NORTH 24 PARGANAS	3
			PASCHIM MEDNIPUR	2
			PURBA MEDNIPUR	7
			SOUTH 24 PARGANAS	1
				69
	Grand Total	354*		6761*
*Likely to change once districts of all known 6761 cases are ascertained				

Source-PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI Compiled from Ministry of Health & Family welfare

6. PHD Chamber's viewpoint on pandemic COVID-19 in India

IMF projects rosy picture of Indian economic growth at 1.9% in FY2021 and 7.4% in FY2022.

The growing severity of the impact caused by the widespread pandemic, COVID – 19, on our economy, its people and the Nation as a whole is a matter of deep concern. Globally, around 22 lakh people across 200 countries are impacted due to pandemic COVID-19 of which 1.5 lakh people have died and around 6 lakh people have recovered so far¹.

At domestic front, number of affected people due to COVID-19 in India are 13,495 of which 1777 have recovered and 448 have died so far. Keeping in view the alarming situation, the timely proactive and combative measures undertaken by the Government to curtail the spread of pandemic COVID-19 and take complete control on the situation are highly appreciable.

We appreciate the recent reform measures by the government in terms of fiscal support of Rs. 1.70 lakh crore, Rs. 15,000 crore towards the build-up of health infrastructure, issuance of Rs 18,000 crore pending refunds of income-tax, GST & custom by IT Department, among others. Further, calibrated steps taken by RBI will strengthen financial system especially the operations of NBFCs and MSMEs and refuel economic growth sooner than later.

In the backdrop of proactive measures by the Government to contain the spread of pandemic COVID-19, the total number of COVID-19 cases has been rising at a decelerating rate since 1st April 2020. There were 1998 cases of coronavirus in India as on 1st April 2020 with a growth rate of 43% over the previous day. However, the cases have increased to 13,430 by 16th April 2020 but at a decelerating growth rate of 8.6% over the previous day.

The government efforts have helped in maintaining the low rate of spread of infection, with one in every 24 samples testing positive. Before the strategy of lockdown was implemented the doubling rate of COVID19 cases was about 3 days, but now the doubling rate of cases now stands at 6.2 days.

PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry stands in complete solidarity with the Government and pledges to extend its wholehearted support, in whatever means required and possible, to help the Nation stand against the wild tide of pandemic COVID-19, overcome its adverse impact and come out victorious by defeating the pandemic COVID-19 virus.

PHD Chamber fully support the extended lockdown period till 3rd May and appreciates the SEVEN-point precautionary guidelines announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji. The seven-point precautionary guidelines announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister, are highly appreciable and will have a significant impact to mitigate the spread of pandemic Covid-19 and its complete removal from our country

¹ Data as on 17th April 2020, 6:00 Pm from Worldometers



Calibrated Approach to Exit from Lockdown

PHD Chamber in its pledge to support the Government and take care of all the citizens of India has significantly contributed to the PM CARES Fund initiated by our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji, to help India get relieved from the intense grip of the pandemic COVID-19. Our member industry organizations have extensively contributed to the PM CARES fund in which more than Rs. 450 crores have been contributed so far.

The Chamber, through its member organisations is committed to enlighten, educate and motivate all citizens of the country to diligently follow the Hon'ble Prime Minister's appeal of '7 baton mein aapka saath' and extensively use the Aarogya Setu app, to safeguard themselves and their families against the pandemic Covid- 19

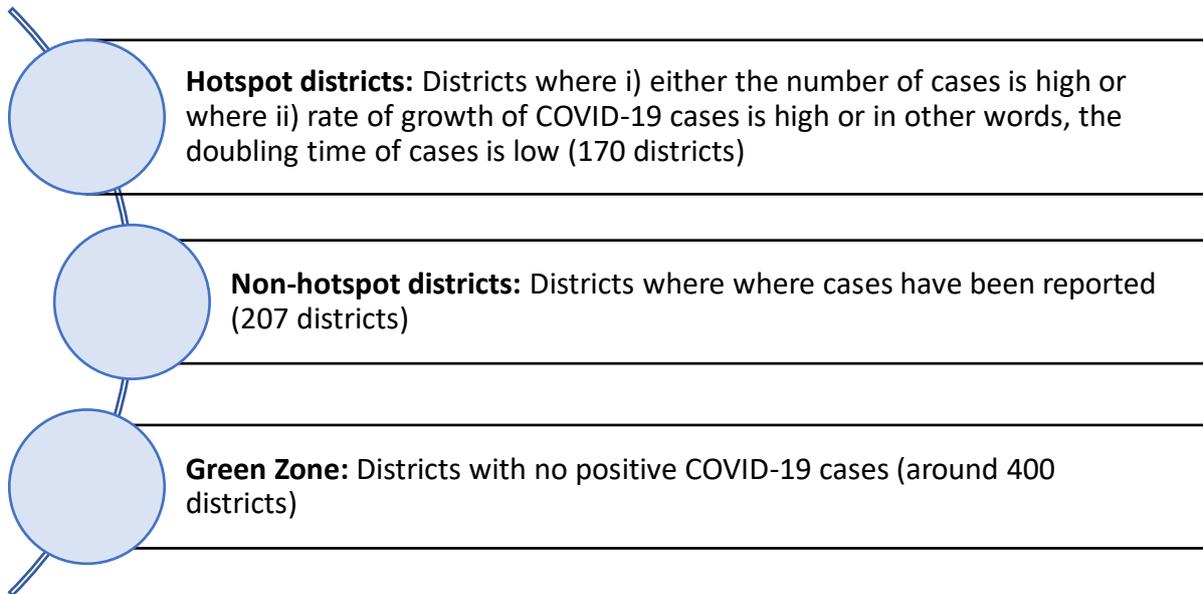
Our member industry organisations are providing food, rations and taking care of sanitization needs of the poor, needy and the ones stranded in places away from the family. Many of our member organizations have also extended help to various State Governments and provided ventilators and other hospital machines and essential required to cater to the increasing number of patients at the hospitals and medical centers.

Going ahead, PHD Chamber urge the government to provide an increased stimulus relief package of Rs 16 lakh crore which is around 7% of GDP sooner than later to mitigate the impact of Pandemic COVID-19 on economy, trade and Industry through various relief measures and benefits. A significant stimulus of 7% of GDP would help to rejuvenate the businesses and refuel the economic growth trajectory of the country

Calibrated steps taken by the RBI along with the financial stimulus to be provided by the Government sooner than later will help the economic growth trajectory to grow at more than 4% against the 2% rate of growth projected by various international organisations. Further, it is suggested that a calibrated approach to exit from lockdown and resume economic activities is significant at this juncture across all the sectors and states (except the heavily affected areas) to help normalise the operations of trade and industry in the next few months.

7. PHD Chamber suggests a calibrated approach to exit from lockdown

PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry has prepared a calibrated approach to exit from lockdown and revive the economic growth trajectory affected by the impact of pandemic COVID-19. We have outlined the post lockdown exit strategy as per the bifurcation of the districts specified by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. Every district of the country has been divided into: Hotspot districts, Non-hotspot districts and Green Zone.



Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI

The hotspot districts are the districts where i) either the number of cases is high or where ii) rate of growth of COVID-19 cases is high or in other words, the doubling time of cases is low. In these districts, only supply of essential goods and services should be allowed with smooth inter-state movement of essential goods along with ready availability of health and medical services.

The non-hotspot districts are the districts where cases have been reported and appropriate steps are being undertaken by the Government to control the spread by issuing various advisories. To allow smooth functioning of business activities in this zone, it is suggested that 25% of the workforce may be allowed in the all activities of area including government, economic, business, trade and industry, among others except public gatherings with strict adherence to social distancing and precautionary measures.

In the Green zone, those states/ districts would be covered where there are no COVID-19 positive cases. Even if there were positive COVID-19 cases in these areas, they have been suitably cured/ addressed by the Government. There are around 400 districts in India that are COVID-19 free including Bhandara, Chandrapur, Wardha, among others. To resume all activities in this zone from April 20, 2020 it is suggested that 50% workforce be allowed in all

Calibrated Approach to Exit from Lockdown

activities of area including government, economic, business, trade and industry, among others except public gatherings with strict adherence to social distancing and precautionary measures.

PHDCCI's Calibrated Approach to Exit from Lockdown

S.No.	Zone	Degree of Exit from Lockdown	Activity
1.	Hotspot districts	Low degree	<p>In this zone, only supply of essential goods and services should be allowed with smooth inter-state movement of essential goods along with ready availability of health and medical services.</p> <p>Strictly adhere to the seven-point precautionary guidelines announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to fight against the pandemic COVID-19.</p> <p>Best practices include spreading awareness of social distancing by websites, social media, posters and wall writings, spray of disinfectants, distribution of locally produced protective gear to villagers, among others.</p>
2	Non-hotspot districts	Moderate degree	<p>In these districts, it is suggested that 25% of the workforce may be allowed in all activities of area including government, economic, business, trade and industry, among others except public gatherings with strict adherence to social distancing and precautionary measures.</p> <p>Follow the seven-point precautionary guidelines announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to fight against the pandemic COVID-19.</p> <p>Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for social distancing for offices, workplace, factories and establishments should be strictly implemented with proper sanitization of buildings, factories, etc.</p>
3	Green zone	High degree	<p>To resume all activities in this zone from April 20, 2020 it is suggested that 50% workforce be allowed in all activities of area including government, economic, business, trade and industry, among others except public gatherings with strict adherence to social distancing and precautionary measures.</p>

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			<p>Follow the seven-point precautionary guidelines announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to fight against the pandemic COVID-19.</p> <p>Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for social distancing for offices, workplace, factories and establishments should be strictly implemented with proper sanitization of buildings, factories, etc.</p>
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Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI

In a nutshell, considering the cruciality of backward and forward linkages of business firms, it becomes necessary to enable the entire supply chain of trade and industry to resume their activities together and not in isolation (except hotspots districts) after adopting the necessary health guidelines. Therefore, PHD Chamber suggests a calibrated approach to exit from lockdown and resume economic activities across all the sectors and states (except the heavily affected areas where there are large number of positive COVID-19 cases).

7.1 Implications for Inter-state trade

During the last five years, India's economy has performed significantly well and has increased its presence significantly in the world economic system. By opening up several pathways for development, the Government has ensured that the benefits of growth and macroeconomic stability reach the bottom of the pyramid. The advent of economic reforms has not only enhanced the level of economic growth, but has also provided a conducive and promising business environment in the country.

A strong and a robust industrial and manufacturing sector helps in promoting domestic production, exports and employment that can be catalysts for higher growth in the economy. Thus, higher industrial growth supported by well-connected infrastructure facility is vital for India to maintain the momentum of higher sustainable economic growth.

Bolstering industrialization with state-of-the-art infrastructure creates competitiveness not only at the domestic level but also in the international markets. With the advent of artificial intelligence and industry 4.0 resulting in increased efficiency and efficacy of the production processes, India has the potential to become a global manufacturing hub in the next few years.

While countrywide lockdown is essential for containing the spread of pandemic COVID-19, prolonged isolation of trade and industry would lead to domestic supply chain disruptions and lack of demand in the economy considering the interconnectivity and complementarities between the various sectors. It has been observed that India is highly integrated internally, with considerable flows of both people and goods. According to Economic Survey 2017-18,

Calibrated Approach to Exit from Lockdown

Government of India, India’s internal trade in goods and services is 60% of GDP. In fact, in many cases, inter-state trade between neighbouring states exceeds the intra-state trade.

As per the data findings, the five largest exporting states in India are Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka while the five largest importing states are Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat. Furthermore, the states with the largest internal trade surpluses are Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra, Odisha and Tamil Nadu. A majority of these states have reported high number of positive COVID-19 cases in recent times and have been forced to shut down economic activities to contain further spread of pandemic COVID-19 in their vulnerable districts.

Therefore, as much as it is important to save the lives of the people, it becomes equally important to save their livelihood and ensure that economic activities resume their pace when India exits from the lockdown. Thus, the more the economic activities get delayed the more cumbersome it will become to restart and revive the economic and industry.

It is suggested that economic activities be started as soon as possible in all the states and not just a few states (except those areas/ districts that have been identified as hotspots of spread of COVID-19 by the Government) by adopting a calibrated approach with necessary compliance of health guidelines as prescribed by the World Health Organization (WHO), precautionary measures and prohibiting public gatherings.

7.2 Implications for Inter-industry trade

Trade is an important channel for growth, employment generation, transfer of technology and achieving economies of scale. In trade, inter-industry trade is one of the major components promoting the growth of domestic industry as there exists complementarities between industries within domestic boundary i.e. raw material of an industry is the finished product of some other industry. A few instances of inter –industry trade are as follows:

Inter Industry Trade	
Sectors are interconnected i.e., decline in economic activity in one sector has a multiplier effect on others whereas improvements in one sector produces a domino effect in others	
For instance: Complementarities between automobile and agriculture and food processing sector	
Agricultural equipment (for instance tractor) produced in Automobile Industry	Tractors Used by the Agriculture and food processing sector in their daily business chores

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For instance: Complementarities between Textile & Chemicals, packaging and machinery sectors	
A textile-factory require chemicals for processing, paper and plastic for packaging, spare parts for its sewing machines, and consumables such as thread	Chemical industry, Packaging industry, Industrial machinery plays a crucial role in supply raw materials/products to textile industry

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHDCCI

India has several promising sectors such as agriculture and food processing, automobiles, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, textiles, infrastructure, IT & ITeS, retail/ e-commerce, energy, tourism, banking and finance, chemicals, construction, education, among others. These are the growth engines for future progress and massive economic development. All of these sectors are interconnected i.e., decline in economic activity in one has a multiplier effect on others whereas improvements in one produces a domino effect in others. For instance, higher-quality education and healthcare result in healthier and more skilled workers who can help drive further growth and innovation in India’s manufacturing sector.

Therefore, keeping in view the significance of inter-industry trade, it is crucial at this juncture to rejuvenate the domestic industrial activities in the coming times across all the states and sectors simultaneously. Provision of healthy working environment for domestic industries would be crucial to resume industrial activities to contain the impact of pandemic COVID-19. Going forward, opening up of economic and business activity across all the sectors and not just a few sectors is important in least impacted areas to help many daily wagers to return back on work and resume business activities with lot of precautions and safety measures as advised by the government.

7.3 Implications for backward and forward linkages of business firms

Sectoral linkages are defined as a sector’s linkages with the rest of the economy through its direct and indirect intermediate purchases and sales. The production linkages arise from the interdependence of the sectors for meeting the needs of the productive inputs while demand linkages arise from the interdependence of the sectors for meeting final consumption.

Further, sectoral linkages are categorized into two groups based on the direction of interdependence namely backward linkages and forward linkages. The backward linkages identify how a sector depends on others for its input supplies. The forward linkages identify how the sector distributes its output to the rest of the economy. Moreover, backward and forward linkages indicate a sector’s economic pull and push; direction and level of such linkages present the potential capacity of each sector to stimulate other sectors of the economy.

The worldwide spread of the pandemic Covid-19 is severely impacting the global economy and it has been observed that almost one-third to one-half of the global population is now



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under some form of a lockdown. This has resulted in contractions in economic activities across the world severely affecting trade and industry. Accordingly, a majority of the economies have witnessed disruptions in backward and forward linkages in supply chains. Sectors such as manufacturing, tourism and hospitality, travel, services and retail industries along with Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises are significantly impacted. In India, too, there is lockdown and has been further extended to control the spread of COVID-19.

Further, considering the cruciality of backward and forward linkages of business firms, it becomes necessary to enable the entire supply chain of trade and industry to resume their activities together and not in isolation (except hotspots districts) after adopting the necessary health guidelines. This would help in reducing the severe impact on trade and industry in these extremely difficult times.

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8. Way Forward

The pandemic COVID-19 has emerged as a major global health crisis of the 21st century and the greatest global humanitarian challenge that the world is facing since World War II. The deadly virus has spread widely and the number of cases are rising daily as Governments across the globe are working tirelessly to slow its spread. In this regard, India has moved quickly by implementing a proactive nationwide 21-day lockdown with the goal of flattening the curve and using its limited resources efficiently. PHD Chamber fully supports the extended lockdown period till 3rd May 2020 and appreciates the seven-point precautionary guidelines announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi.

According to the latest projections by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the pandemic COVID-19 is inflicting high and rising human costs worldwide, and the necessary protection measures are severely impacting economic activity. For the year 2020, the global GDP growth is projected at (-)3 percent, much worse than during the 2008–09 financial crisis. In a baseline scenario—which assumes that the effect of the pandemic fades in the second half of 2020, the global economy is projected to grow by 5.8 percent in 2021 as economic activity normalizes helped by requisite policy support. India's GDP growth is projected at 1.9% for FY2021 and 7.4% in FY 2022.

At this juncture, a calibrated approach should be adopted by the Government that brings about a fine balance between normalizing economic and social activity and containing the spread of pandemic COVID-19 in India. This would enable the country to witness a V-shaped recovery in the economic growth trajectory rather than a U-shaped recovery. PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry urges the Government to provide an increased stimulus relief package of Rs 16 lakh crore which is around 7% of GDP sooner than later to mitigate the impact of pandemic COVID-19 on economy, trade and Industry through various relief measures and benefits. A significant stimulus of 7% of GDP would help the economy to grow at more than 4% in the current financial year 2020-21, rejuvenate the businesses and refuel the economic growth trajectory of the country.

The Government has already provided a stimulus of around Rs 2 lakh crore, therefore, our expectation is for the remaining Rs 14 lakh crore for revival of India's trade and industry. This will go a long way in boosting the morale of the industry and help the economy bounce back post the lockdown. Thus, the reform measures would significantly help trade and industry to resume business activity in these extremely difficult times. Further, increase in government consumption expenditure and capacity building by the business firms would be crucial at this juncture to rejuvenate the economy to its potential growth trajectory of 7-8% in the next few years.

The Chamber, through its member organisations is committed to enlighten, educate and motivate all citizens of the country to diligently follow the Hon'ble Prime Minister's appeal of '7 batoon mein aapka saath' and extensively use the Aarogya Setu app, to safeguard themselves and their families against the pandemic COVID- 19. We are optimistic that India will emerge victorious in the fight against pandemic COVID- 19 by safeguarding both lives and livelihoods of its countrymen.



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PHD Research Bureau

PHD Research Bureau; the research arm of the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry was constituted in 2010 with the objective to review the economic situation and policy developments at sub-national, national and international levels and comment on them in order to update the members from time to time, to present suitable memoranda to the government as and when required, to prepare State Profiles and to conduct thematic research studies on various socio-economic and business developments.

The Research Bureau has been instrumental in forecasting various lead economic indicators national and sub-national. Many of its research reports have been widely covered by media and leading newspapers. The Research Bureau has undertaken various policy studies for Government of India and State Governments.

Research Activities	Comments on Economic Developments	Newsletters	Consultancy
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Profiles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India's Economic Developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forex and FEMA Newsletter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Research and Consultancy: Innovative and customised research solutions for growth of Industry and businesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact Assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States' Economic Developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Economic Monitor (GEM) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thematic Research Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade & Investment Facilitation Services (TIFS) Newsletter 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Releases on Economic Developments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Markets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Development Monitor (SDM) 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign exchange market 		
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Studies Undertaken by PHD Research Bureau

A:

Thematic research reports

1. Comparative study on power situation in Northern and Central states of India (September 2011)
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24. Make in India: Bolstering Manufacturing Sector (October 2014)
25. The Indian Direct Selling Industry Annual Survey 2013-14 (November 2014)
26. Participated in a survey to audit SEZs in India with CAG Office of India (November 2014)
27. Role of MSMEs in Make in India with reference to Ease of Doing Business in Ghaziabad (Nov 2014)
28. Exploring Prospects for Make in India and Made in India: A Study (January 2015)
29. SEZs in India: Criss-Cross Concerns (February 2015)
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37. Grown Diamonds, A Sunrise Industry in India: Prospects for Economic Growth (November 2015)
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44. Ease of Doing Business : Suggestive Measures for States (October 2016)
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46. Impact of Demonetization on Economy, Businesses and People (January 2017)
47. Economy on the eve of Budget 2017-18 (January 2017)
48. Union Budget 2017-18: A budget for all-inclusive development (January 2017)
49. Annual Survey of Indian Direct Selling Industry 2015-16 (February 2017)
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62. India - China Trade Relationship: The Trade Giants of Past, Present and Future (January 2018)
63. Analysis of Trade Pattern between India and ASEAN(January 2018)
64. Union Budget 2018-19 – (February 2018)
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67. Impact of GST on Business, Industry and Exporters (April 2018)
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70. India's Free Trade Agreements Dynamics and Diagnostics of Trade Prospects(May 2018)
71. India – UK Trade Relations and Societal Links: Way Forward (June 2018)
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