



Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP)

Public Health Department, Maharashtra

COVID 19 Related Updates

Media Bulletin

Date – 24th March 2020

18 new cases of COVID-19 in the state

State tally rises to 107

A 65-year-old COVID-19 patient died last evening at Kasturba Hospital Mumbai. This Dubai-based man had gone to a hospital in Ahmedabad on 15th March with a complaint of back pain. He then came to Mumbai. On 20th March 2020, he started getting fever. While getting treated at a private medical practitioner, he developed cough and breathing difficulty. He got admitted to Kasturba hospital on 23rd March 2020 in a critical state. He died the same evening. He was a patient of uncontrolled diabetes and hypertension. This is the third COVID-19 related death in the state.

Meanwhile, 18 more cases were found positive in the state, taking the state tally to 107. Out of the 18 new cases, 6 are from Mumbai, 4 from Islampur-Sangli, 3 from Pune, 2 from Satara and 1 each from Ahmednagar, Kalyan-Dombivali and Thane. Out of these, most people (8 of them) had traveled to middle-eastern countries and a

few others have returned from America, England and Peru. 2 of them are contacts of previously diagnosed COVID-19 cases.

District- and municipal corporation-wise details of COVID-19 cases is as follows:

Sr. No.	District/Municipal Corporation	COVID-19 cases	Deaths
1	Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation	12	0
2	Pune Municipal Corporation	18	0
3	Mumbai	41	3
4	Navi Mumbai, Kalyan-Dombivali	5 each	0
5	Nagpur, Yavatmal, Sangli	4 each	0
6	Thane, Ahmednagar	3 each	0
7	Satara	2	0
8	Panvel, Ulhasnagar, Aurangabad, Vasai-Virar, Ratnagiri, Pune-rural	1 each	0
	Total	107	3

387 passengers returned from foreign countries have been taken under surveillance in the state today. 11,097 people are home quarantined in the state. Since 18th January, 2,531 people have been hospitalized in various isolation wards across the state owing to them developing symptoms such as fever, cold, cough etc. Out of the

total admissions, 2,144 laboratory samples were negative and 107 have been tested positive for coronavirus until today.

As a preventive measure and control preparedness of Novel Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), isolation wards have been created in all District Hospitals and Government Medical Colleges in the state. As per the advisory issued by Government of India, all international passengers are being screened at airports and those who are symptomatic are being shifted to isolation wards. Apart from this, passengers coming from high-risk countries are being institutionally quarantined as per the instructions of Government of India and 880 passengers are currently in institutional quarantine.

Appeal from the Public Health Department

- **Don't be scared of people from Pune-Mumbai:** It is being observed in the last couple of days that people are going back to their native places in large numbers from Mumbai and Pune. There's an atmosphere of fear around these people among rural public. There have been a few requests for getting these people tested for COVID-19. There is no reason that people returning from Pune and Mumbai should be stamped with the 'home quarantine' stamp. Nobody should be socially boycotted due to COVID-related fears.
- **Keep clinics and pharmacies open:** It has been observed that many medical professionals have kept their OPDs shut. In epidemic outbreaks such as this,

people should be able to access other medical services and emergency medical care. Therefore, the public health department has urged that OPDs, other medical services and also pharmacies should not be kept shut.

- **Not every fever and cough is COVID-19:** Some medical professionals are advising COVID-19 tests to routine cold-cough patients. In addition, there have been complaints received at the control room that some of the doctors are denying services to patients with such symptoms. It must be remembered that every cold-cough is not Coronavirus infection. Doctors should not deny medical services to these patients. Only those patients should be tested for COVID who are symptomatic and they either have international travel history or have been in contact with a COVID-19 positive patient.
- **Do not boycott foreign-returned people:** There have been complaints received at the call centre that some people who have returned from foreign countries and are in home quarantine are being boycotted along with their families and some are asked to leave the housing society. A foreign-returned person should be supported during home quarantine and this is everyone's responsibility.