

# Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker

## Regional report - South Asia



This report summarises the major changes in the region for the Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker's [Containment and Health Index](#), providing a high level overview of shifts in government policies.

OxCGRT is created by the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford. For more information visit [www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker](http://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker).

<b>REGION</b>	SOUTH ASIA
<b>Date range</b>	01-15 July, 2020
<b>Reported by</b>	Rushay Naik

### Brief summary of major changes:

In the first half of July, a number of countries in South Asia modified containment measures to reflect increasingly localized transmission of COVID-19. In India and Pakistan, mass lockdowns gave way to community restrictions on movement and business through the designation of containment areas. While India extended school closures, cancelled public events, and imposed a nightly curfew nationwide, some businesses have reopened and small family events are now permitted in non-containment zones. Pakistan has similarly extended school closures, while emphasizing a 'smart lockdown' strategy to restrict non-essential business and internal movement in localities designated as containment areas. Bhutan has cautiously resumed many public activities, pursuing limited reopenings of businesses, schools, family gatherings, and public transport. Following a spike in COVID-19 cases one week into Sri Lanka's phased school reopening plan, schools were ordered closed once more.

<b>C1: School Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BTN:</b> Bhutan allowed some secondary classes to resume their academic sessions on 01 July, with most primary classes set to resume in future phases; pre-primary classes will not resume on campus for the remainder of the academic year</li> <li>• <b>IND:</b> India extended closures of schools, colleges, and coaching institutions on 01 July until 31 July in both containment and non-containment zones</li> <li>• <b>LKA:</b> Sri Lanka began a phased reopening of schools on 06 July; following a spike in cases, schools were closed again on 13 July until at least 17 July</li> <li>• <b>PAK:</b> Pakistan extended school closures on 02 July until the first week of September, past the expected reopening date of 16 July</li> </ul>
<b>C2: Workplace Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BTN:</b> Bhutan allowed some businesses to reopen on 01 July, including informal street vendors and sports centres; the closing time of most businesses was also extended from 7pm to 9pm local time</li> <li>• <b>IND:</b> India allowed businesses in non-containment zones to reopen on 01 July, with official recommendations for work-from-home and the staggering of working hours; only essential services continue to be operational in containment</li> </ul>

Summaries are created with data from the OxCGRT, uploaded by contributors. For specific references, please see the database [www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker](http://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker)

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	<p>zones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PAK:</b> Pakistan extended 'smart lockdowns' on 02 July for localities in some provinces, including <b>Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkwa, and Sindh</b>, mandating the closure of non-essential businesses and defining standard operating practices for essential businesses</li> </ul>
<b>C3: Cancel Public Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>IND:</b> India announced the cancellation of all social, political, sports, religious, entertainment, academic and cultural events from 01 July in both containment and non-containment zones</li> </ul>
<b>C4: Restrictions on Gatherings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BTN:</b> Bhutan allowed gatherings for religious functions and social events restricted to family members and close associates beginning 01 July; parks and sports facilities additionally reopened with attendance restricted to a minimum level of crowding</li> <li>• <b>IND:</b> India extended a ban on large public gatherings on 01 July, while restrictions on weddings were loosened to no more than 50 guests, and funerals to no more than 20 guests</li> </ul>
<b>C5: Close Public Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BTN:</b> Bhutan allowed taxis and other public transports to begin carrying passengers at full capacity on 01 July, with face masks mandatory for passengers</li> <li>• <b>IND:</b> India resumed domestic flights and passenger trains on 01 July, metro rail systems remain closed</li> </ul>
<b>C6: Stay at Home requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>IND:</b> India imposed a nightly curfew nationwide on 01 July, and general daytime movements were restricted in containment zones except for the operation of essential services</li> <li>• <b>PAK:</b> Pakistan directed citizens to stay confined in homes when subject to 'smart lockdown' notifications in their locality as of 02 July</li> </ul>
<b>C7: Restrictions on Internal movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>IND:</b> India maintained strict perimeter control in containment zones as of 01 July, barring movement in or out of designated areas</li> <li>• <b>PAK:</b> Pakistan formalized restrictions on internal movement in its 'smart lockdown' strategy as of 02 July, barring movement outside containment areas</li> </ul>
<b>C8: International Travel Controls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>IND:</b> India extended its ban on all international flights on 01 July with the exception of repatriation flights</li> </ul>
<b>H2: Testing Policy</b>	No changes reported
<b>H3: Contact Tracing</b>	No changes reported

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### Cases vs Government Response Index:

