Covid-19 in India- what do we know till now?

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The numbers till date

12,380 ▲ 941
CASES

10,477 ▲ 721
ACTIVE

1,489 ▲ 183
RECOVERED

414 ▲ 37
DEATHS

As on 16th April 2020, 8 am IST. Source: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India
Governmental actions have been proactive

**Containment**
- Travel restrictions
- Contact tracing & quarantine efforts
- Isolation wards in specific hospitals

**Mitigation**
- Expanding testing criteria
- Lock-down to reduce community transmission
- Additional isolation and quarantine facilities

**Support**
- Procurement - PPEs, Ventilators, Medicines
- Communication and SOPs for various sectors
- Private sector roped-in
Locking down 1.37 billion people is unprecedented

81% of the labour force in informal sector

More than 50% households with food insecurity

Less than 50% having any social security coverage
Daily New Cases

Cases per Day
Data as of 0:00 GMT+0

Lock-down started

Novel Coronavirus Daily Cases

Days:
Feb 15, Feb 18, Feb 21, Feb 24, Feb 27, Mar 01, Mar 04, Mar 07, Mar 10, Mar 13, Mar 16, Mar 19, Mar 22, Mar 25, Mar 28, Mar 31, Apr 03, Apr 06, Apr 09, Apr 12, Apr 15
Daily confirmed cases (7-day rolling average), by number of days since 30 daily cases first recorded
Stars represent national lockdowns ★
• The lock-down has been curfew-like
• 21 day lockdown with very few exemptions
• Now, it has been extended by another 19 days (brining it to a total of 40 days)
• A number of states bringing out epidemic control ordinances, giving extensive powers to the executive
The government claims that the lock-down was successful and prevented a large proportion of cases.

Source: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India
But the real problem is

• We are not testing enough!
• The testing capacity is now 21,000 per day, but this is for a population of 1370 million people
• The rate of tests conducted is approximately 150 per million, which is much lower when compared to other countries in a similar phase of the outbreak
Total tests for COVID-19 per 1,000 people

Source: Official sources collated by Our World in Data
Note: There are substantial differences across countries in terms of the units, whether or not all labs are included, the extent to which negative and pending tests are included and other aspects. Details for each country can be found at ourworldindata.org/covid-testing.
COVID-19: Tests vs. Confirmed cases per million

Both measures are shown per million people of the country’s population. Comparisons of testing data across countries is compromised for several reasons (see note below).

Source: Tests: official data collated by Our World in Data. Confirmed cases: European CDC – Situation Update Worldwide

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Civil society response has been rather subdued

- Early stage of the outbreak when government systems are still in control
- The lock-down has bought time for the public health systems to prepare
- Most cases are in states with a better public health infrastructure and health-worker to population ratio
- The civil society is yet to figure out its role
Huge contributions to government and other NGOs (some as high as 200 million USD)

Community kitchens

Opening up hospital networks for Covid-19 treatment

Community kitchens

Covering for logistical needs, especially pharmaceuticals

Advocacy efforts

Established NGOs in health and development

Faith Based Organizations and their allies

Civil society groups affiliated to political parties

Charitable trusts managed by business houses

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Addressing humanitarian needs during lockdown, especially with migrant workers

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Addressing humanitarian needs during lockdown, especially with migrant workers

Advocacy efforts
Thank you

The views expressed are personal