

PRO-ACTIVE MEASURES ADOPTED BY GOVT ON COVID-19

Panaji: [May 28, 2021](#)

The Government has adopted various measures to combat the pandemic by creating new infrastructure besides augmenting the existing one apart from making creating awareness among people of the facilities available by using various mediums of communications.

Liquid Medical Oxygen

On the request of the State Government, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India has allotted 20 MT additional allocation of LMO from LINDE Belloxy, raising the overall supply to 46 MT.

Plan to Set up Oxygen Generation Plants

- One PSA Plant is being installed in GMC by GSIDC and is awaiting commissioning.
- PSA oxygen generation plant of 600 LPM capacity is received through the PM Cares Fund for SGD, Margao. However, the delivery of the compressor is awaited for taking up its installation and commissioning.
- More oxygen generation plants (PSA) have been requested under PM Care Fund for NGD, Mapusa (1000 LPM), ESI Hospital (1000 LPM), and their delivery is awaited. It is expected by [07/06/2021](#).

Status of Newly built Super Specialty Block at GMC

The Super Specialty Block (SSB) at GMC was made partially ready on [08/05/2021](#) for admissions of COVID patients. 27 patients were admitted on day one, which gradually increased to around 290 patients on 19/05/2021 which included both new admissions and shifting of existing patients from GMC. All efforts are made to see that sufficient beds are made available in the SSB not only to tide over the current situation but for maintaining sufficient numbers of third wave. The total bed capacity as on date is 436 beds with Oxygen port, and 552 beds with oxygen port or oxygen concentrators.

Vaccination Strategy

Till date the State of Goa has received 7,31,720 doses of COVISHIELD vaccine from the Government of India. Considering the target population of 6.5 lakhs for the age group of 18-44 years, the State Government approved initial procurement of 5 Lakh doses of COVISHIELD vaccine from Serum Institute as per GOI policy at the declared price, out of which

32,870 doses have been received in the 1st lot. This first batch has been almost exhausted within a week. Further, 36,580 doses have been allocated for the entire month of **June 2021** for vaccinating the said age group, which is not sufficient to meet our objective of vaccinating this target group expeditiously.

As such, the Government has also endeavoured to procure vaccines from other Government approved manufacturers. The process of procuring 2 Lakh doses of COVAXIN Vaccine from Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad has also been initiated. Guidelines for procurement of vaccines for children are awaited from GOI. The approximate population of persons in the 0-18 category is 4.65 Lakhs. Also, the process for Global Tendering for procuring vaccines has been initiated.

Dedicated Hospitals and/or paediatric wards, neo natal ICUs, pediatric ICUs and other medicines/consumables.

The details of the number of pediatric wards, oxygen beds, neo natal ICUs, pediatric ICUs, with the number of patients that can be admitted, in GMC and other Hospitals in Goa (for COVID positive children requiring admission), is as under:-

- North Goa District Hospital, Mapusa
 - Conducting training for Medical officers and other IMA/IAP doctors for home monitoring of mild/asymptomatic children.
 - 5 beds in SNCU will be added to the existing beds.
 - Additional 5 beds will also be kept ready between SNCU and postnatal care.
- South Goa District Hospital, Margao
 - Dr. Ira Almeida, Sr. Paediatrician is also a member of the Expert Committee.
 - Setting up of SNCU, Pediatric ward (presently used for adult admission) is being undertaken. 70 Pediatric beds (all with OT), 6 PICU beds and 12 SNCU beds and 12 SNCU beds are being allocated.
 - Training will be conducted by Dr. Ira Ameida, Sr. Pediatrician for pediatrician and staff nurses at Hospicio Hospital, Margao.

The drugs required and other consumables for treating the children will be indented from MSD, DHS.

Recruitment of additional staff and incentives for such staff

With regard to the plan to recruit additional staff - doctors, nurses, technicians, etc., the details of the availability of the manpower, it is submitted that a total of 567 nos. Doctors/Nurses/Technical staff and MTS are appointed on contract basis for Covid Management under DHS. Presently, there is no shortage of manpower. As per requirement of additional staff posts are advertised for contract appointment and are filled through walk in interviews.

With respect to the Goa Medical College, the existing doctors from Goa Medical College, Goa Dental College and ESI have been deployed for COVID duties totalling 350 at any given time and they are posted on rotational basis. Besides, PG Jr. Residents from all broad speciality departments have been posted for COVID duty on rotational basis. Total PG Jr's being 270 for all three years. Also additional 134 MBBS pass outs have been appointed under Bond service for COVID task force for covid duties.

Existing Staff Nurses from the Goa Medical College, Goa Dental College have been deployed for COVID duties. 400nos of new staff nurses have been recruited. Additional 07 Technicians have been recruited. Besides, 12 Pharmacists have also been deployed from ESI in GMC for COVID duties. 400 new MTS have been recruited and the existing MTS from GMC have been deployed for COVID duties.

Task Force for 3rd Wave

- The Government has already constituted a Task Force under the chairmanship of Honourable Chief Minister with induction of the Pediatricians including Government and private Hospital for formulation and implementation of strategy to tackle the possible third wave of COVID-19 pandemic. The first meeting of the said committee was convened on 21/5/2021.
- Besides, a Expert Committee has also been constituted under the chairmanship of Dean, Goa Medical College with Director of Health Services and others as Members. A meeting of the Expert Committee has been held on 22/05/2021.

MUCORMYCOSIS

As on 25/05/2021, there are 09 active cases of Mucormycosis admitted in GMC. As per GMC, there is no death directly caused due to mucormycosis. Also, no deaths of Mucormycosis have been reported from hospitals under DHS.

The Dean, Goa Medical College has constituted a task force to deal with Mucormycosis. A meeting of this task force has been held and the minutes of the meeting of the said Task Force is annexed.

The Department of ENT of GMC in association with other specialist and super specialist of GMC has prepared a protocol for management of Mucormycosis which is based on guidelines published by the Indian Academy of Otorhinolaryngology.

In order to treat such patients, a special ward No. 102 of 30 bedded capacity has been commissioned for mucormycosis in GMC. Doctors from various broad speciality and super speciality departments have been identified and deputed for the same. The necessary infrastructure for management of mucormycosis including endoscopes and staining facilities are made available. In addition, adequate medicines are in stock and additional orders have been placed.

Beds are reserved for suspected cases in district hospitals. Under the DHS, the Sr. ENT/ Sr. Ophthalmologist/ Sr. Physician are involved in the surgery process.

IVERMECTIN

At present Ivermectin is given to all suspected and symptomatic cases and provided to positive cases in home isolation kits. Meeting of State Expert Committee for covid 19 was held on 13/05/2021 under the chairmanship of Health Minister with experts from Government and private institutions. After deliberations it was recommended the use of Ivermectin 12mg once daily for 5 days to the entire above 18 years population of the State, except pregnant/ lactating mothers. Those having allergy and those having liver / kidney disease are informed to consult a doctor.

As per inputs received from Directorate of Health Services, there are worldwide studies conducted in various countries, which showed positive effects for prevention, treatment and cure of patients in the regimen. Studies are available at <https://ivmmeta.com/> Patient is informed at the time of dispensing that there may be side effects.

DI/NB/AXP/2021/167

Issued by Department of Information & Publicity

Department of Information & Publicity
3rd Floor, Udyog Bhavan,
Near Azad Maidan, Panaji