

# **India's Fight against COVID-19**

## **Economic Packages**

(Compiled by the Videsh Vibhag, Bharatiya Janata Party)

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### **Economic Packages**

- The Ministry of Home Affairs orders to provide food and shelter to homeless and migrant laborers on 28th March, Apart from that the Modi government also directs all States and Union Territories to provide full relief to the homeless including migrant labourers stranded due to lockdown and sheltered in relief camps.
- Under the SDRF (State Disaster Response Fund) fund was issued which will provide: Temporary accommodation, Food, Clothing, and Medical care.
- As PM Narendra Modi had highlighted on 24th March, the government has sanctioned Rs. 15 billion crore package for India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness. It'll be utilized to mount an emergency response to contain COVID-19 and strengthen the medical infrastructure.
- PM Shri Narendra Modi's five pleas to the party members and activists on party's 40<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day are,
  1. Every activist should ensure that not a single poor remains hungry.
  2. Use of face covers.
  3. Gratitude to Corona warriors.
  4. Promotion of the Aarogya Setu App (the government's Covid-tracker mobile app).
  5. Donation to PM-Cares Fund.
- Gareeb Kalyan Yojana (22.6 billion) is being sanctioned, were 1.96 million MT food grains distributed in 31 States/UTs to 392.7 million beneficiaries. 26.60 million Ujjwala ( Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana was launched by Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi on 1 May 2016 to distribute 50 million LPG connections to women of BPL families) beneficiaries receive free cooking gas cylinders. 6.06 lakh members of EPFO (Employee Provident Fund Organization) have availed online withdrawal of Rs.195 million. 205 million women PMJDY( Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana is financial inclusion program of Government of India open to Indian citizens, that aims to expand and make affordable access to financial services such as bank accounts, remittances, credit, insurance, and pensions.) account holders receive Rs 500 each at a total disbursement of Rs 100.25 million. 28 million aged widows, Divyangs, and senior citizens received Rs 1,000 each at a total of Rs 140 million.
- 80 million farmers receive the first instalment of Rs 2,000 under PM-KISAN Yojana(Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) is a Central Sector

Scheme with 100% funding from Government of India. Under the Scheme, income support of Rs.6000/- per year is provided to all farmer families across the country in three equal instalments of Rs.2000/- each every four months.) at a total disbursement of Rs 160 million.

- 21 million building and construction workers have received Rs 1,500 each, totalling to Rs 30 million.
- 1 million firms have been provided 24% EPFO (both employers and employees) at a cost of Rs 1.62 billion.
- Rs 310 million has been transferred directly to help the needy and vulnerable Indian.

### **Relief measures by Reserve Bank of India (1st and 2nd announcement)**

The 1st announcement was made on 27th March; right after the lockdown was started. It featured the following reliefs:

- The three-month moratorium was provided on all term loans
- Not paying EMIs will not affect credit score
- Repo Rate was slashed down by 0.75 points to 4.4%
- Reverse Repo Rate was brought down to 4%, reduced by 90 points
- CRR (Cash Reserve Ratio) reduced by 100 points to 3%; move expected to free up 13.70 billion. The second announcement was made on the 17th of April, and it brought major relief to businesses.
- Fixed-rate reverse repo rate reduced by 25 basis points to 3.75%
- Rs. 500 million funds for liquidity adjustments with at least 50% to be invested in Non-Banking Financial Company s & Microfinance Institutions.
- Refinance package of Rs. 500 million to National Bank For Agriculture & Rural Development, Small Industries Development Bank of India a nd National Housing Bank for sectoral credit needs.
- 90-day NPA( Non-Performing Assets) norm to exclude the moratorium period provided by the banks.
- Date of commencement of operations in real estate projects extended by an additional one year for loans given by Non-Banking Financial Company.

## **Cooperative Federalism**

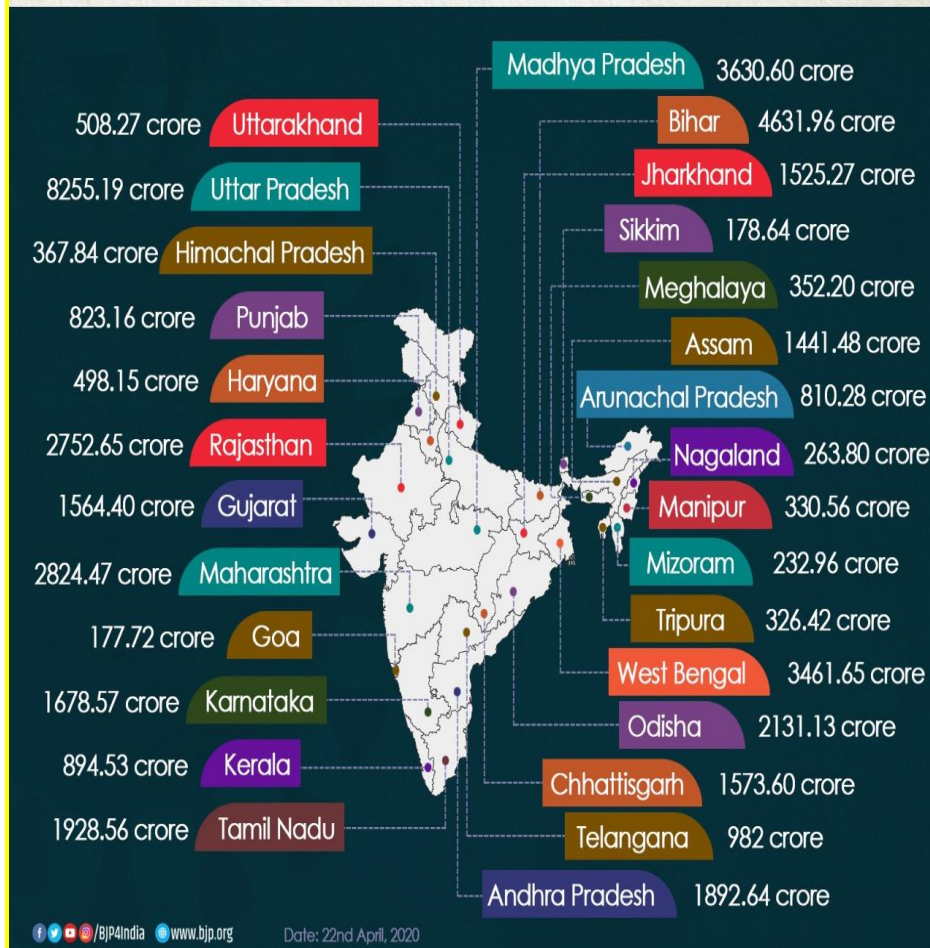
Cooperative federalism has been one of the core principles of the Modi government's good Governance model. Modi government has institutionally empowered the states, both in terms of financial and resource allocation over the past few years through measures like equitable share in GST( Goods and Services Tax ) revenue and increasing revenue share from the central tax pool to 42%. This spirit of taking all states along has strengthened the collective fight against the Coronavirus, which PM also termed as 'social emergency'. PM Modi has taken all states along in this fight by holding constant consultations and giving out adequate assistance to them. As PM Modi keeps emphasizing, this war is being fought and will be won by TEAM INDIA.

## **Central Funds released to states**

Modi government is supporting States in all manners to empower them to fight against COVID-19 pandemic. It has sanctioned Rs. 460.38 million for them as share in Central Taxes and Duties for April 2020 so that they have more funds at their disposal at this time. Centre empowers states to lift food grains from Food Corporation of India in addition to allocation under PM Gareeb Kalyan Yojana( is an amnesty scheme launched by the Narendra Modi led Government of India in December 2016 on the lines of the Income declaration scheme, 2016. A part of the Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Act, 2016, the scheme provides an opportunity to declare unaccounted wealth and black money in a confidential manner and avoid prosecution after paying a fine of 50% on the undisclosed income.) to feed those who are not covered under the Food Security Act.

## Empowering States with more funds to fight against COVID-19

**Rs 46,038 crore** sanctioned for States as share in Central Taxes & Duties for April 2020



### India's Global outreach

India is leading the war against COVID-19. From the World Health Organisation to the US and Europe, from Israel to neighboring countries, the world is looking up to India to tide over this crisis.

SAARC COVID-19 Emergency Fund			
Country	Amount	Status	
India	\$ 10 Million	Announced	
Afghanistan	\$ 1 Million	Announced	<a href="https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1242007380784746497">https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1242007380784746497</a>
Sri Lanka	\$ 5 million	Announced	<a href="https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1242009468197654528">https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1242009468197654528</a>
Bangladesh	\$ 1.5 million	Announced	<a href="https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1242009674226044936">https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1242009674226044936</a>
Pakistan	\$ 3 million	Pledge/ On Hold	<a href="https://twitter.com/ForeignOfficePk/status/1248290212893122563">https://twitter.com/ForeignOfficePk/status/1248290212893122563</a>
Nepal	\$ 1 Million	Announced	<a href="https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1241056858825093120">https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1241056858825093120</a>
Bhutan	\$ 1,00,000	Announced	<a href="https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1241056983651733504">https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1241056983651733504</a>
Maldives	\$ 2,00,000	Announced	<a href="https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1241306880732827648">https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1241306880732827648</a>