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City crosses 200-mark, state Covid-19 count touches 3,023

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Tamil Nadu's Covid-19 positive count rose by 266 on Sunday to touch 3,023, with Chennai crossing the 200-mark. A 44-year-old man from Coimbatore died at Chennai's Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital taking TN's toll to 30.

In a clear sign that the infection rate was rising in Chennai, the doubling rate — time taken for the number of cases to double — fell to four days. The rate, calculated by the National Institute of Epidemiology, was nine days on April 27.

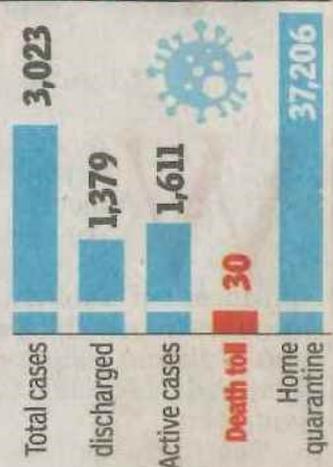
That hospital in Chennai, which reported 203 cases on Sunday, were running out of beds was clear from reports that 40 ambulances with Covid-19 patients from Ashok Nagar and Tiruvallur were turned away by Stanley Medical College, Madras Medical College and Omandurar hospitals, before they were accommodated at Kilpauk Medical College hospital in the evening. This was confirmed by an ambulance driver and officials at KMC, who requested anonymity. On Sunday, public health officials and doctors visited several city colleges to set up more than 2,000 isolation beds for patients with mild or no symptoms.

► **Combing zones, P 6**

STATE DEATH TOLL TOUCHES 30



ALL FOR ONE: Doctors accepting IAF's respect in the city on Sunday



TN comes out with SOP for restarting industries

Chennai: The state government on Sunday issued a detailed note on standard operating procedures (SOP) to be followed while restarting industries, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and construction work across the state from May 6. As per the SOP, workplaces should have thermal scanners to screen workers at entry and exit points, premises must be disinfected twice a day and companies must arrange for doctors' visit or en-

sure they are available on call at all times.

The state government on Saturday allowed industrial establishments in special economic zones, export oriented units, IT and IT enabled services, hardware manufacturers, spinning mills, textile units and other industries to resume production. It also allowed construction activities to resume, with certain riders. TNN

► **Masks a must, P 6**

Officials combing containment zones

► **From P 1**

Revenue and civic officials were seen combing through the containment zones to spot sources of infection.

"We have given a list of vendors who visited the Koyambedu market to districts across the state. They are all being tested along with their family members," said J Radhakrishnan, special nodal officer for Greater Chennai Corporation. "We are testing more people so we can detect more positive cases, isolate and treat them," he said.

The number of people tested in

the state was more than 10,584 on Sunday, taking the total number of people tested so far to more than 1.4 lakh.

Thirty-three vendors from Vilupuram, who had visited Koyambedu market recently, tested positive on Sunday. At least two dozen people on one street in Ashok Nagar tested positive. At the Thiruvanmayur market complex two vendors tested positive.

At VK Pillai Street in Triplicane, 14 more people tested positive taking the total number of cases on the 2km road to 50.

While 38 people from across the

state were discharged, there were still 1,611 people in hospitals across the state.

In Chennai, while 60 patients with mild or no symptoms were moved to the DG Vaishnav College, arrangements were being made to move patients to the Chennai Trade Centre where there are 350 beds. Officials are making arrangement to move patients into the veterinary college campus (120 beds), Vellam College of Engineering (300), Loyola College (250), Stella Maris College for Women (100), Meenakshi Engineering college (100) and Meenakshi Dental College (150).

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State hikes VAT, petrol up ₹3.25/L, diesel up ₹2.5/L

Value added tax (VAT) on fuel has been hiked by TN government effective midnight. From Monday the price of petrol will go up by ₹3.25 a litre from ₹72.20 to ₹75.53 and diesel will be up by ₹2.50 a litre from ₹55.70 to ₹58.20 across the state.

LOCKDOWN 40

20 central teams in most hit dists to assist states

The Centre will deploy 20 public health teams in districts, such as Chennai, that have the most Covid-19 cases to assist states in implementation of containment strategy.

54% consumers have seen loss in income: Survey

A survey on Indian consumer sentiments conducted during the lockdown by management consulting firm McKinsey showed that 54% of consumers have seen a loss in income and 67% have cut back on spending.

CRPF constable tests positive, HQ sealed

A constable of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) was found to be positive for Covid-19. The headquarters in Chennai was sealed.

Colonel, Major among five killed while rescuing hostages in J&K

Top Lashkar Man From Pak 1 Of 2 Terrorists Killed

Saleem Pandit & Rajat Pandit | TN

Srinagar/New Delhi: Leading from the front in the Army's best traditions, Colonel Ashutosh Sharma, a decorated commanding officer of a Rashtriya Rifles battalion, along with a company commander, two other soldiers and a policeman laid down their lives in a fierce encounter with terrorists at Chanjimulla area of Handwara in north Kashmir's Kupwara district on Saturday evening.

Govt aims for 1L rapid, PCR

The government aims to set up one lakh rapid response and PCR testing centres across the country to manage the surge in Covid-19 cases.

2-DAY ENCOUNTER



Army and police personnel pay tributes to the five slain bravehearts in Handwara. Intel says 2-4 terrorists in Wadabala-Rajwara forests, Kupwara. Army begins combing op on May 1 morning.

A twice-decorated daredevil who doted on daughter, led from the front

Colonel Ashutosh Sharma, 45, commanding officer of 21 Rashtriya Rifles, was awarded the Sena Medal for gallantry twice. "He was a daredevil, who always led from the front," a senior officer said.

Col Sharma with daughter Tamanna. Col Sharma and his four terrorists had taken refuge in the nearby Chanjimulla hamlet on Saturday afternoon.

Terrosists active in Handwara for 2 wks

Terrosists Halder from PoK, a top Lt, and Asif Reshi from Handwara were part of a seven-member group, five of whom were killed in Kupwara district on April 5 when they tried to infiltrate across the LoC.

BRIGHT SALUTE TO COVID WARRIORS

Small party were ahead of the security forces still deployed in the forests when they got intelligence inputs that the terrorists, clad in combat fatigues, had taken civilians hostage in one of the houses, an officer said.

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13 urban sprawls account for 2/3rd of India's cases, deaths

Nearly three-fourths of all Covid-19 cases and deaths reported in India have been in the country's 35 largest urban agglomerations (UAs), with two-thirds of cases and deaths being reported from the 13 largest UAs, a TOI analysis of the data shows.

STATE DEATH TOLL TOUCHES 30



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Corona count crosses 40K



Six-member gang kills man Madurai: Police are on the lookout for a six-member gang accused of murdering a 35-year-old man from Viratipathu on the outskirts of the city on Sunday.

Ex-panchayat president arrested for forgery Tuticorin: A former panchayat president from a village in Tuticorin district was arrested on charges of forgery. He is charged of using a fake signature and seal of a revenue official to swindle farm subsidy.

Workplace sanitisation, masks a must According to the order issued by chief secretary K Shanmugam on Sunday, industrial units should not allow employees from containment zones to work and they should also ensure that only medically fit employees with no co-morbid conditions are engaged for work.

LOCKDOWN DOUBTS WRITE TO US TO make your life easy during the coronavirus lockdown, TOI invites its readers to send their queries at lockdown@timesgroup.com

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SANGLI MIRAJ & KUPWAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION CUM BIDDING PROCESS FOR SELECTION OF A BIDDER FOR PROCESSING AND DISPOSAL OF EXISTING WASTE ON SAMDOLI AND BEDAG SITE

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I am 76 years old. I need to buy a special a medicine for my wife. The medical shop who can supplies it cannot deliver now. The shop is about 5km from my home. Can I drive and get the medicine?

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