

# From the Group Director's Desk; Knowledge Sharing Initiative:-

## CORONAVIRUS: A PANDEMIC

Dear All,

We are in the middle of another phase of lockdown, with self-isolation, maintaining hygiene and ensuring washing of hands with soap and water several times a day for 20 seconds each. This seems to be the only answer to this helpless situation, that we are in, in the absence of a vaccine to kill the virus.

While the human and economic cost of COVID-19 is escalating each day in terms of, death, loss of jobs, closing of factories and business houses, resulting into melting economies, causing endless miseries and sufferings to men, women, children, elderly and sick. The schools, colleges are closed replacing from class room teaching to virtual teaching. Offices are closed, replacing actual work place attendance to work fromhome.

The pollution levels have drastically gone down, and we see clearer skies, beautiful blue green waters of rivers and can see far off mountains due to clean environment.

However, there are psycho- social and economic costs that we are worried about that may leave behind longer term impacts in ourlives.

While Govt of India is trying to reach out to people indistress, particularly the poor with food and transport, we also need to discipline ourselves and stay indoors.

The research and development of a vaccine will require a lot of funds, efforts and knowledge base.

Bill Gates has pledged to fund seven Research Projects for the vaccine to be developed ata war footing.

Ratan Tata has opened the doors of his hotels to the doctors, nurses and other medical staff to stay when not in duty hours as they cannot go home.

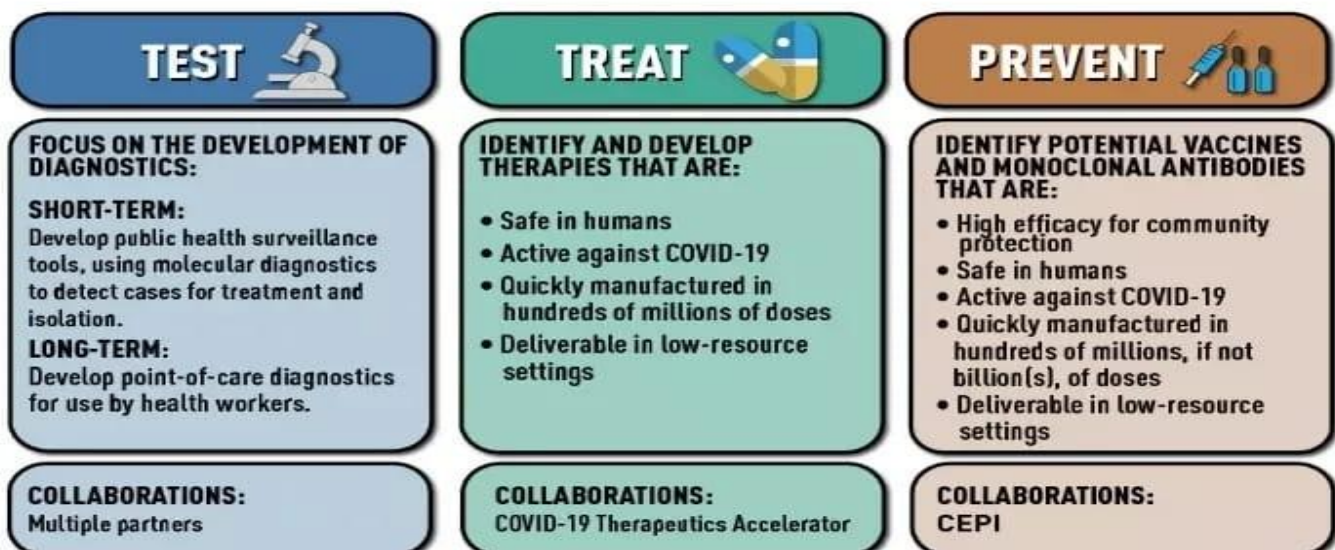
Indian Railways has converted Rail coaches into quarantine facilities.

Our front-line worries, doctors, nurses and para- medical staff are working tirelessly, round the clock for the COVID-19 patients. They need protective clothes, surgical masks gloves and head years etc to protect themselves. They do not home as protective measure to save their families frominfection.

In these difficult times, we need to find out a vaccine or appropriate medicine to win over the deadly virus. The following presentation gives the three stages of Research and Development (R&D).

### R&D's ROLE IN A PANDEMIC

Developing New Tools in Response to COVID-19



While we hope that the scientists, researchers and doctors are able to save humanity, we feel that the soldier within us also need to be highly proactive

in supporting the cause and saving humanity by helping the fellow citizens, our brethren, for the world is a global village and we need to help each other in this hour of need.

Wish you stay safe and stay healthy.

**Best regards.**

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Last modified: 20:28