

3 MAHARASHTRA

High caseload among jail inmates, prison department ramps up testing

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, SEPTEMBER 7

EVEN AS random testing in prisons across Maharashtra showed high caseload among inmates, the state prison department has ramped up testing for early identification and isolation of Covid-19 cases.

As of now, 33 out of 47 prisons in the state have reported positive cases. The total number of reported cases from prisons were 2,155 as of Monday, including 1,772 inmates and 383 staff. Of them, 1,040 inmates and 310 staff members

have recovered, while six inmates and three prison staff have died of the infection.

It should be recalled that the first lot of cases was reported from Mumbai Central Prison, better known as Arthur Road jail, in the first week of May. To date, Chandrapur, Akola, Nagpur, Sangli, Kolhapur, Yerawada and Mumbai central prisons have reported more than 100 cases among inmates. These cases are either being reported from the main premises of the prison or from temporary prisons, where new admissions are being lodged.

Temporary prisons have sep-

arate Covid care centres, where asymptomatic inmates are being lodged. Those with symptoms are being admitted to designated hospitals along with security arrangements.

So far, 11,260 inmates have reportedly been tested either through swab samples or rapid antigen test. Of them, close to 3,000 were tested over the past week. The present inmate population of prisons across the state is 26,700. As a percentage of the total population, more than 42 per cent have been tested, while 2,300 prison officers and guards have also undergone tests.

Sunil Ramanand, Additional

Director General of Police (Prison and Correctional Services) of Maharashtra, said, "With the availability of increased testing facilities everywhere, we have decided to expand our testing pool in the main premises of prisons as well as temporary prisons. This has helped us in early detection and isolation."

Asked if more temporary prisons would be set up, Ramanand said, "The buildings designated as temporary jails were not meant to be prisons, thus requiring more security measures and deployment of additional security, which we have to draw from the main premises.

The current capacity of temporary prisons is sufficient."

Around mid-May, the state home department empowered district collectors to take provisional possession of government or private buildings and designate them as temporary prisons, which could be used for isolating sections of prisoners to avert the spread of the viral infection.

To date, 37 temporary prisons have been designated across the state, most of which are on the campuses of schools, colleges or hostels with multiple separate buildings. These temporary jails house close to 2,800 inmates at present.

'I HAD A LOT OF CLOTH AT HOME, BUT NO MONEY OR FOOD'

How a Pune tailor started making masks to ensure financial freedom amid pandemic

DIPANITANATH
PUNE, SEPTEMBER 7

ON MARCH 25, the first day of the lockdown, Rupali Ramachandra Powanikar was in her small home with her husband, two sons and Rs 4 lakh worth of fabric that she had intended to stitch into school uniforms for Pune convent schools.

"But people began to cancel orders as schools were closed and unlikely to open anytime soon. Suddenly, I had a lot of cloth in the house but no money or food for the family," says Powanikar, 34, a home tailor from Dhayari in Pune's Benkar Basti. "My husband, a cutter,



Rupali Ramachandra Powanikar now supplies masks to hospitals, homes and various organisations.

and I were very tense as we had to pay rent in a few days, household expenses to meet and a young son with a heart condi-

tion, for which he needs expensive medicine," she adds.

It was a time when a new item of clothing was beginning to be spoken of frequently, even by the Prime Minister. "I told my husband, 'Don't be tense. We have fabric, in checks, lining, hosiery and plain. We will make a lot of masks,'" says Powanikar. The couple worked through the night and, by the time day broke, Powanikar had a large collection to sell on the streets. There were few people out but a number of those who were, from policemen to essential workers, became her first customers. The next day, too, she sold out her stock of masks.

Across Pune, scores of daily wage labourers and migrant

workers were beginning to make long journeys home to their villages as earning opportunities dried in the city. Powanikar represents the micro-entrepreneurs of the city who were among the hardest hit by the pandemic, but managed to fight the economic hardship by adapting.

A buyer came back and told her the quality was good and if she would take a bulk order for masks. "Now, I supply to hospitals, homes and organisations and people also come home to buy masks. I make between Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 on most days. We have managed to put food on the table though our family is still not out of financial troubles," she says. Even today, Powanikar can

be seen on the streets, highways and marketplaces, wearing mask and gloves, selling her array of masks to passers-by for Rs 50 a packet.

Powanikar is associated with an organisation called Mann Deshi Foundation, where she learnt to operate computers and, now, holds online training workshops on mask-making for hundreds of other women. "Masks come in different sizes as well as designs, from round masks to single or double layered, with elastic or knotted, among others. I also make mobile phone videos to spread awareness about mask making. At Mann Deshi, alone, we have made more than 1 lakh masks," says Powanikar.

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Now, 'threat' calls at Pawar's Silver Oak residence, Deshmukh's Nagpur office

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 7

EVEN AS police are probing the threat call to blow up Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray's private residence Matoshree, reports emerged of similar calls being made at NCP chief Sharad Pawar's Silver Oak residence. A similar threatening call was said to have been made at Home Minister Anil Deshmukh's Nagpur office as well.

"Calls had been made to the CM's residence Matoshree. I have come to know that calls have been

made to Sharad Pawar sahab's residence as well. Certain anti-social elements are rearing their head again. The Home Minister will inquire into this and find out who is behind this," state NCP president and Water Resources Minister Jayant Patil said.

Leader of Opposition in the Assembly, Devendra Fadnis, demanded a proper investigation into the matter.

"I think these threat calls need to be properly investigated," he said, adding, "It needs to be checked whether these were serious threat calls or if somebody is doing it deliberately."

Raju Misal becomes PCMC oppn leader

Pune: NCP corporator Raju Misal has been appointed the new opposition leader in the PCMC. The NCP had recommended his name to the municipal secretary, who had intimated the Divisional Commissioner regarding the same. There were five names that were doing rounds for the post, of which NCP's Bhosari corporator Ajit Gavhane was the most favoured one.

However, NCP decided in favour of Misal, "who had worked relentlessly for Parth Pawar" during the Lok Sabha elections. Misal replaces Nana Kate, whose one-year tenure ended recently. **ENS**

How to save existing jobs and create new ones?

EXPRESS
explained.Live

with

Mahesh Vyas
CEO

Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE)

Between 2012 and 2018, the number of Indians with jobs fell for the first time ever. In 2017-18, unemployment reached a four-decade high.

Since then, economic growth has slowed every year, and job opportunities have shrunk further.

Now, Covid-19 has mostly destroyed whatever job prospects were left.

Exactly how bad are things? Which geographies and industries are worst hit? How can we address and remedy this situation?

Listen to Mahesh Vyas, CEO of the thinktank Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), at the next session of **Explained.Live**.

In conversation with

Udit Misra

Deputy Associate Editor, The Indian Express

10 SEP 2020

07:00 PM

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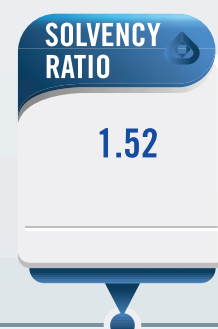
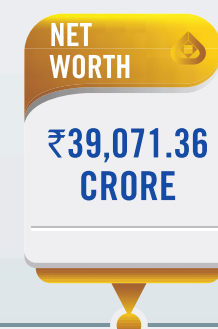
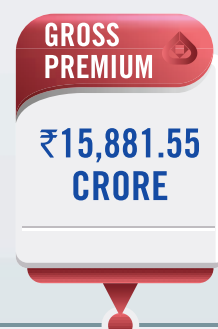
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REVIEWED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2020

(₹ in Crore)

Sl No	Particulars	Quarter Ended 30.06.2020	Quarter Ended 30.06.2019
1	Premium Income (Gross)	15,881.55	20,813.12
2	Net Profit/(Loss) After Tax	(557.47)	108.60
3	Paid up Equity Share Capital	877.20	877.20
4	Net worth (including Fair Value Change Account)	39,071.36	52,181.82
5	Total Assets	129,291.31	128,776.54
6	Solvency Ratio	1.52	1.89

Notes:-

a) Premium income is Gross written premium, gross of reinsurance and net of applicable taxes.

b) The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly and year to date Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 and Regulation 52 of SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015. The full format of the quarterly and year to date Financial Results are available on the websites of Stock Exchanges (www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com) and the Corporation (www.gicofindia.com)

For and on behalf of the Board Directors

Sd/-
Devesh Srivastava
Chairman and Managing Director
DIN: 08646006

Place: Mumbai
Date: 07.09.2020

"Suraksha", 170, Jamshedji Tata Road, Churchgate, Mumbai 400020, India. | Telephone (Board): +91 22 2286 7000 • Email: info@gicofindia.com

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