



CHANDIGARH

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 | Web : chandigarhpolice.gov.in

1. STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF CURFEW/ LOCKDOWN

Chandigarh Police went for strict enforcement of curfew orders. Given the anticipated large number of impounded vehicles, arrangements for their parking under watch and ward were also made. As a precautionary measure, proper sanitization of impounded vehicles and their keys were regularly conducted to rule out the spread of pandemic.



Policeman Sanitizing the Vehicle keys

2. TEMPORARY JAILS

Chandigarh Police anticipated in advance that a large number of curfew violators will be booked under legal provisions. Given the limitations of existing space in police stations, Chandigarh Police designated two large facilities i.e. cricket stadium Sector 16 and sports complex Manimajra as temporary prisons to detain the violators through notification by Chandigarh Administration.

Following measures were taken in temporary jails.-

Social distancing was ensured in temporary jails.

Cooked food and drinking water was served to detainees free of charge.

Basic amenities like mobile toilets were also made available in temporary jails.

Dedicated staff was deployed for all documentation.

Permanent guard was deployed for security purposes.

3. STRENGTHENING OF FIELD STAFF

Due to substantial increase in workload viz Legal cases, increased barricades and patrolling in lockdown, duties of manpower were reviewed and following steps taken.

1. Identification of essential and less-essential units and redeployment of staff to essential duties.
2. Field staff duties were segregated as Light and Heavy Duty.

Heavy Duty – e.g. Duties deployed at city's outer check posts were categorized as Heavy Duty reason being constant vehicular movement from neighbouring states requiring continuous action on part of the police.

Light Duty – e.g. Inner city area markets and residential area etc

The reason cited was that Inner city area markets are functional only from 11 AM to 3 PM and persons visiting these markets are more aware about social distancing.

4. CITY SEALING

In order to curtail unauthorized vehicular movement, Chandigarh Police analyzed all the 56 entry points in the city and allowed only 23 points for entry and remaining points were closed. Thermal scanning of all incoming passengers was conducted at all the entry points and if any person found symptomatic, health team was called for assistance as per pre-established protocol.

Daily commuters such as government employees, daily wagers, essential service providers, bank employees etc. were allowed to travel in Chandigarh from other states.

Apart from daily commuters, particulars of persons/vehicles entering Chandigarh from other states with a valid movement pass issued by a competent authority were noted down. These persons were compulsorily quarantined for 14 days.

5. SPREADING AWARENESS

Social distancing

Due to the pandemic a huge number of people lost their jobs and hence were unable to make ends meet. Cooked food was to be provided to approximately 140,000 people daily. Food distribution along with maintaining social distancing became a difficult task, but due to proactive policing and frequent awareness drives, Chandigarh Police succeeded in maintaining social distancing in markets, grocery stores etc. All police vehicles and drones played a pre-recorded message for spreading awareness.



Social Distancing during food distribution.

Use of latest technologies

Teams were formed to operate in different areas that used drone to educate people on curfew/lockdown/health precautions as well as to capture images and videos which helped in identifying areas of more movement of vehicles/persons. This helped in enforcement, checking such areas, monitoring of social distancing norms in market areas and food distribution during curfew relaxation hours.

6. E-BEAT BOOK APP

eBeatbook has proven to be an effective tool in implementation and monitoring of various initiatives during this time. It has been divided into following:

1. Database creation
2. Monitoring
3. Information dissemination

Detail services created in eBeatbook are as follows:

- Quarantined citizen database
- Database of people entering Chandigarh
- Facial recognition-based monitoring of Quarantined people

It was made mandatory for all quarantined people to mark facial attendance twice a day. A citizen was asked to click a selfie on eSaathi App, which in turn recognized the citizen and records location of attendance. The location difference with other deviations were notified to the beat officer and SHO for further action.

- Senior Citizens
- Movement pass for impounded vehicles
- Chemist shops near me
- Notifications & office orders
- Helpline and contact points

All Helplines and other contact points were detailed on eSaathi mobile app.

- Cyber Security tips
- Regular updates

7. PREVENTIVE MEASURES IN VILLAGE FAIDAN

A resident of this densely populated village was found positive for corona and he was in close contact of residents of Punjab village where many positive cases were found.

To curb the further spread of COVID-19 a door-to-door survey was completed within a day gaining all the information required for the treatment procedure. The whole village was divided into 6 zones and six police teams were constituted for the purpose.

There were total 3500+ families and 19000+ villagers in total as per the survey conducted. Accordingly, grocery kits were arranged for free distribution, jointly by police, administration and other NGOs/social workers. The Police ensured people arrived for receiving grocery kits with token and ID card for better management. The grocery kit was handed over only after verification. 3219 grocery kits were given for 21 days isolation period survival to the villagers and no one was left out. Due to this proactive approach, no other positive case was found in Faidan village.

8. MIGRANTS' ISSUES

One area of concern was the issue of migrants, workers/labourers who were stranded in Chandigarh after the imposition of curfew.

As per government orders, state/UT concerned was required to arrange temporary shelters for such moving migrants. Answering to the call, a temporary **shelter home in Maloyawas** set up. Provisions and facilities for their well being were as follows:

1. Proper meal and refreshments were given at regular intervals on a daily basis.
2. Daily yoga sessions were conducted in the morning.
3. Counselling sessions and stress relieving workshops were conducted at regular intervals.
4. Daily health check-up was conducted by the medical team
5. Round the clock guarding by the police team was ensured.
6. Special needs: e.g. sanitary pads for women, toys for children, were also provided.

9. CONNECTING WITH RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC MINORITIES, VULNERABLE SECTIONS OF SOCIETY

On humanitarian grounds, Chandigarh Police establish a liaison with different sections of society, particularly religious and ethnic minorities.

Liaison with Muslim Religious Leaders

News of spread of COVID-19 infection during religious congregation held in New Delhi came to the fore. Participants of this congregation residing in Chandigarh were identified and subjected to health protocol. Their family members were quarantined. All necessary help was extended to them like providing food, sanitizer, mask, soaps etc. free of charge. Whatsapp group of minority community with officers was setup to resolve their problems. This action resulted in nil positive cases. Due to a personal connect with Chandigarh Police,

Muslim Religious leaders came forward in fight against COVID-19 and decided not to visit mosques and cemeteries to observe Islamic ritual of Shab-e-Barat on 09/10.04.2020. They also made an appeal through the media to the entire muslim community for the same.

Liaison with Ladakhi Students, Kashmiri residents and Students of Northern-Eastern States residing in Chandigarh

Police proactively contacted, established Helplines and Whatsapp groups to know problems/grievances of ethnic minorities like people/students from the territory of Ladakh, state of Jammu and Kashmir and north-eastern states. All their requirements, for essential commodities and services were fulfilled on priority.

10. POLICING BEYOND CALL OF DUTY

Chandigarh Police reached out to solve problems of the needy/hungry people by providing them cooked food, masks, sanitizers, grocery, soaps etc. Chandigarh Police also donated one day salary of all the employees in Prime Minister Relief Care Fund for COVID-19.

Senior citizens were contacted proactively for any sort of assistance by the beat staff, 709 times help was provided to the senior citizens and all their needs were fulfilled on the doorstep. In addition to this, pick and drop facility was provided to the pregnant ladies as public transport remained suspended.

The biggest challenge for the police was to ensure safe and secure delivery of the essential items to the deserving people. To ensure this, a survey was conducted by the beat police staff in their respective jurisdictional areas. More than 10,000 sanitary pads were distributed free of charge in poor neighbourhoods. Masks, gloves, sanitizers were distributed amongst all the needy persons. Special attention was given to old age persons/ disabled/ ladies/ orphan children.