



Department of Governance Reforms and  
Public Grievances  
Government of Punjab

# PUNJAB COVID-19 RESPONSE

## Initiatives and Policy Measures

Prepared by Governance Fellows

# COVID19 Case Load

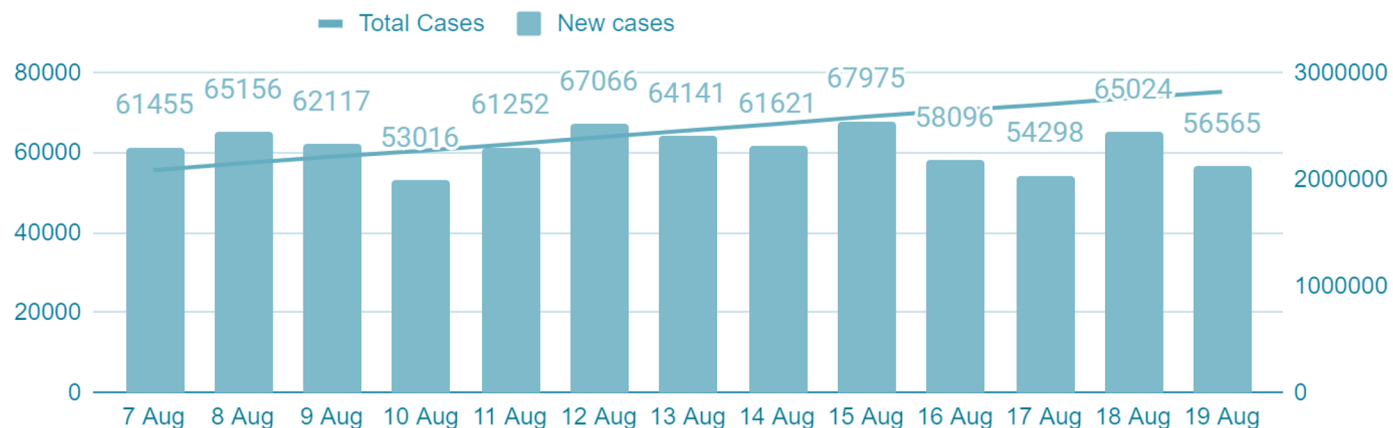
## India COVID19 Status

	World	India	Punjab
<b>Total Cases</b>	22,418,405	2,823,191	<b>36,083</b>
<b>New Cases</b>	295,969	56,565	<b>1,693</b>
<b>Total Death</b>	786,682	53,849	<b>920</b>
<b>New Death</b>	7,761	834	<b>24</b>
<b>% Case Fatality</b>	3.5%	1.9%	<b>2.5%</b>
<b>Total Recovered</b>	15,134,091	2,084,894	<b>22,703</b>
<b>% Recovery</b>	68%	74%	<b>63%</b>
<b>Active Cases</b>	6,497,632	684,448	<b>12,460</b>
<b>% Active</b>	29%	24%	<b>35%</b>
<b># Cases per Mn pop</b>	2,802	1,568	<b>1,203</b>
<b># Deaths per Mn pop</b>	98.3	29.9	<b>30.7</b>

## State level COVID19 Status

State	Total	Cured	Death	Active	Recovery Rate	Case Fatality Rate
Maharashtra	628,639	446,881	21,033	160,725	71%	3.3%
Tamil Nadu	355,449	296,171	6,123	53,155	83%	1.7%
Andhra Pradesh	316,003	226,372	2,906	86,725	72%	0.9%
Karnataka	240,941	156,949	4,201	79,791	65%	1.7%
Uttar Pradesh	167,510	115,227	2,638	49,645	69%	1.6%
Delhi	156,139	140,767	4,235	11,137	90%	2.7%
West Bengal	125,922	95,663	2,581	27,678	76%	2.0%
Bihar	112,759	84,578	568	27,613	75%	0.5%
Telangana	95,700	73,991	719	20,990	77%	0.8%
Assam	82,202	58,295	213	23,694	71%	0.3%
Gujarat	82,087	64,930	2,837	14,320	79%	3.5%
Odisha	67,122	46,936	425	19,761	70%	0.6%
Rajasthan	64,676	49,084	908	14,684	76%	1.4%
Kerala	50,173	32,607	183	17,383	65%	0.4%
Haryana	49,930	42,056	567	7,307	84%	1.1%
Madhya Pradesh	48,405	36,475	1,159	10,771	75%	2.4%
<b>Punjab</b>	<b>36,083</b>	<b>22,703</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>12,460</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>
J&K	30,034	22,497	572	6,965	75%	1.9%
Other	143,451	95,209	1,633	46,609	66%	1.1%
<b>Total India</b>	<b>2,823,191</b>	<b>2,084,894</b>	<b>53,849</b>	<b>684,448</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>

## India Caseload Trend



**Punjab** was the first State in the Country to impose a curfew, even before the National Lockdown. Since then, the State Government has taken several measures to manage the pandemic and its implications.

Punjab has set up a **State COVID-19 Management Group** to review the situation and send their report to the Chief Minister. **13 Committees** have been set up to report to the group:

- 1 Health Sector Response and Procurement Committee
- 2 Lockdown Instructions and Implementation Committee
- 3 Media and Communication Committee
- 4 Agriculture and Food Committee

**5 Relief for Migrant Workers Committee**

**6 Goods Transport Committee**

**7 COVID Care Centre Committee**

**8 Committee on Augmenting Human Resources and Capacity Building**

**9 Committee on upgradation of Health Sector Infrastructure**

**10 Tele-Counselling Services Committee**

**11 Food Grain Procurement Management Committee**

**12 Expenditure Appraisal Committee**

**13 Data Analysis Group**

# SOME IMPORTANT DECISIONS

1

**COVID-19 Anti-Stigma and Anti-Discrimination Campaign** launched on **11 August 2020** with the support of UNDP and WHO.

2

**Punjab among the first few states** to approve **Plasma treatment** for critical COVID-19 patients in hospitals. The 1st Plasma Bank was inaugurated on **21 July 2020**. Notification for plasma therapy as **free service** in government & private facilities done on 1<sup>st</sup> August.

3

Plasma banks are now operational in Faridkot, GMC Patiala and GMC Amritsar. **26 Plasma Donations** done so far.

4

**Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT)** started for early detection and management of COVID-19 infections. **20,582 tests done so far with RAT.**

5

**Treatment Rates for Private Hospitals** has been notified by the State Government basis the profession advice from from Dr. K.K. Talwar Committee.

# SOME IMPORTANT DECISIONS

6

**Community Ownership Model** as a means for the community to be actively involved in the state's response against the pandemic.

7

Government of Punjab constituted a **Group of Experts** led by **Sh. Montek Singh Ahluwalia** to develop a medium-term and longer-term **Post COVID Economic Strategy for the State**. The Group has submitted its first draft of the report for further discussion.

8

Punjab has recently enforced stricter measures in urban areas as required specially in the 5 cities of Amritsar, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Patiala and Mohali to contain the COVID-19 spread

9

Government of Punjab constituted a **Task Force for Strategy on easing restrictions imposed due to Lockdown**.

10

Punjab Government has spent **₹45.05. Cr** to fund movement of migrants via trains to their states

# COVID-19 Public Health Strategy in Punjab

## 5 PILLARS

- 1 **Political & Administrative Commitment**
- 2 **Preparedness**
- 3 **Surveillance (Trace-Test-Treat Principle)**
- 4 **Capacity Building**
- 5 **Intersectoral Coordination**

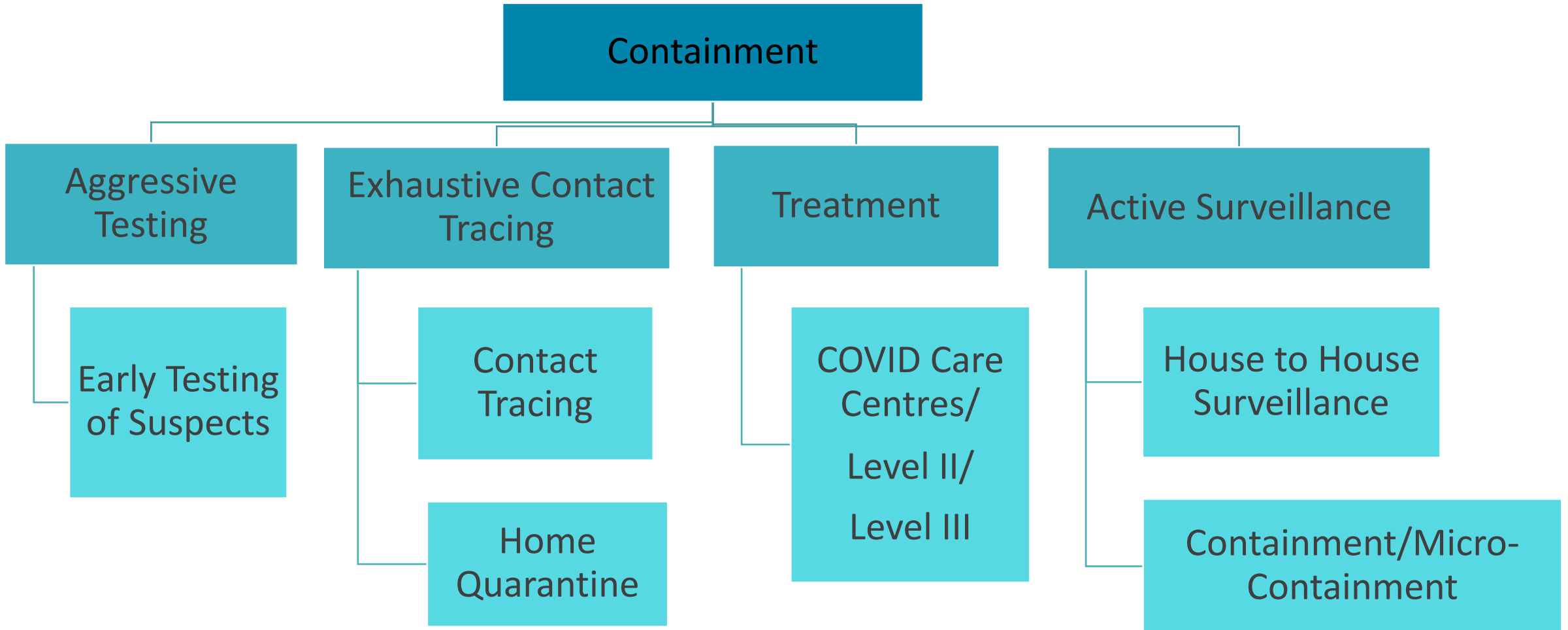
## REGULAR SURVEILLANCE FOR EARLY DETECTION

- 1 **Surveillance of ILI (Influenza Like Illness)**
- 2 **Surveillance in Large Outbreaks**
- 3 **Surveillance in Cluster Areas**

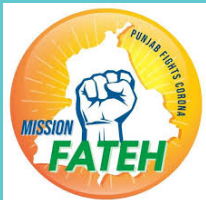
## IEC ACTIVITIES

A **State Public Health Advisory Group** under the **Chairpersonship of Dr K. K. Talwar** constituted with the **State Epidemiologist** as the **Convener**.

# Containment Strategy







# MISSION FATEH

**Mission Fateh** is the effort of the people of Punjab to defeat the pandemic in the face of overwhelming odds. It is a Mission of the people, by the people and for the people.

## **Punjab is creating mass awareness about:**

- **Wearing masks**
- **Washing hands**
- **Maintaining social distancing**
- **Taking care of the elderly**
- **Remaining vigilant about entry of outsiders in the locality**
- **Use of COVA App to track patients of the virus and maintaining a safe distance from them**
- **Importance of Home Quarantine**
- **Symptoms of the flu and action thereafter**
- **Restrictions during Lockdown 5.0 and penalties/fines in case of violations**
- **Community mobilization to jointly fight against the pandemic**
- **Emphasizing that the threat of the virus has not diminished, rather it has become more menacing**

## Committees

For the success of the Mission, the following committees have been constituted - Campaign Committee, Implementation Committee, and District Level Implementation Committee.

## Activities

As part of the communication campaign, methods/platforms such as Hoardings, Campaign Song, IVRS and SMS, Radio, CORONA Warriors, Mission Fateh Warriors, COVA App, TV and Newspapers, and Ground Activities with the help of Sarpanches, Teachers and ASHA/Anganwadi workers are being used.

## Success Indicators

The campaign is mainly dependent upon the response of the people some success indicators of the campaign are as under –

1. Total Registered Users – 7,29,882
2. Total Photos Uploaded – 2,53,543
3. Gold Winners – 100, Silver Winners – 360 and Bronze Winners - 1092

# Regular Surveillance

Punjab has initiated **surveillance for symptomatic persons** in the community to identify any person having COVID-19 symptoms at the earliest

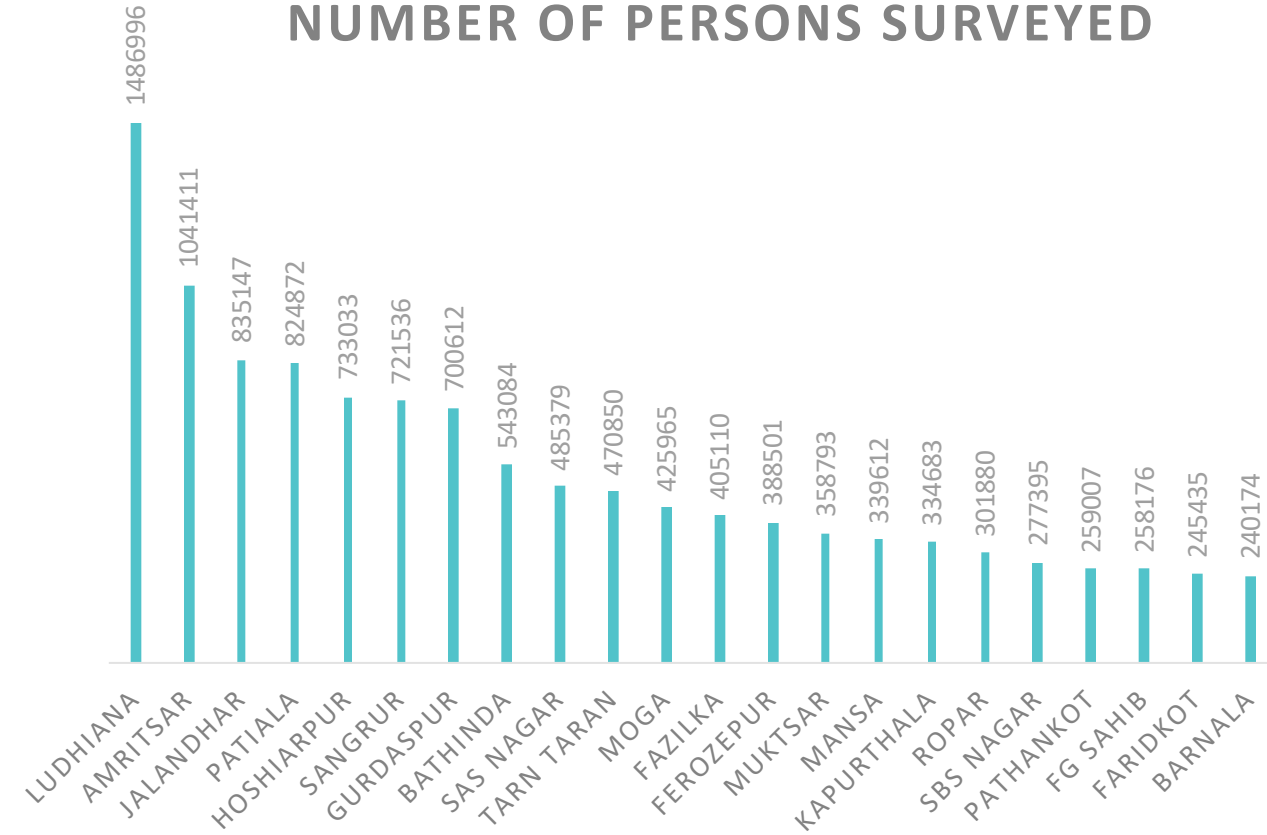
Regular Surveillance for early detection is supervised by **Rapid Response Teams (RRTs)**. Tracking and screening of contacts of positive patients is being done

**Survey in Large Outbreak Areas:** 20 areas in the State with >14 cases have been declared as large outbreak areas.

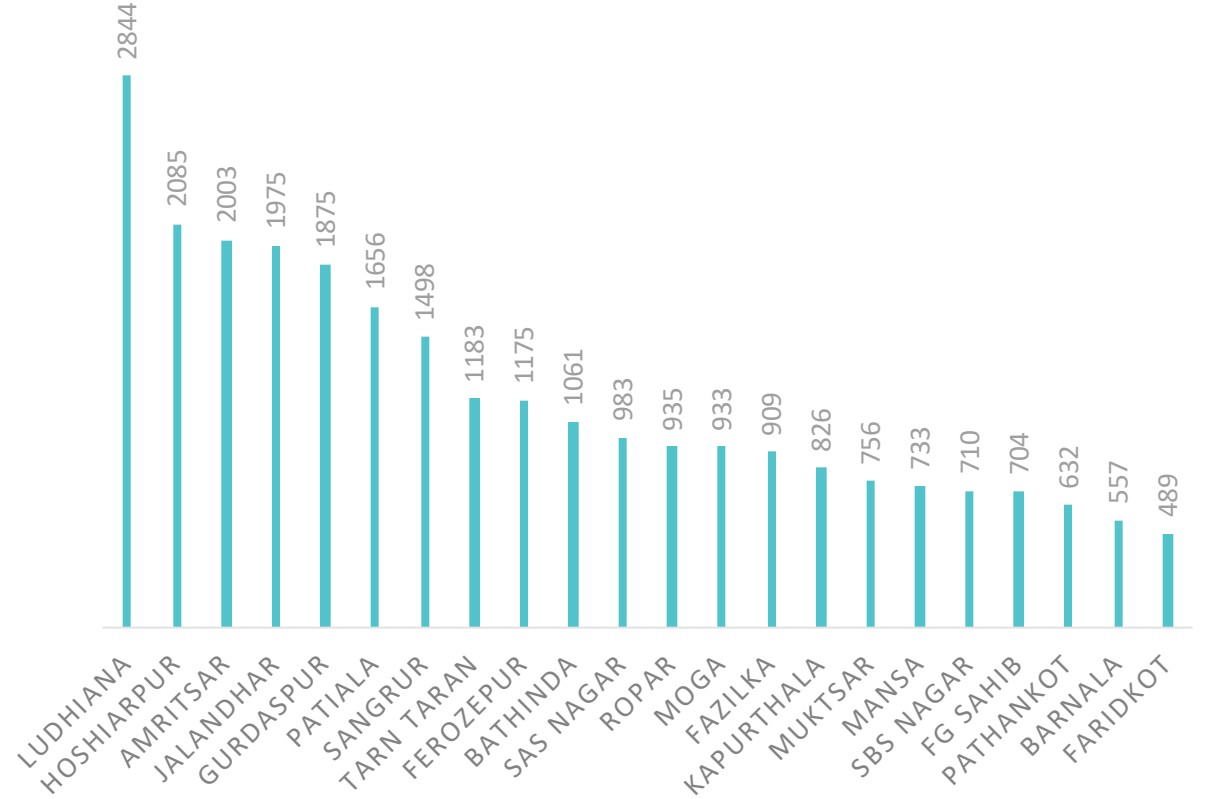
**House to House Survey was launched by the CM. The first round took place from 11th June 31st July** – ASHA, Anganwadi workers and volunteers carried out data collection on a mobile app. Second round planned.

# House to House Surveys

## NUMBER OF PERSONS SURVEYED



## NUMBER OF RESOURCES DEPLOYED



# Micro Containment Zones

Any specific area within a ward/village with population up to 500 which has **5 to 14 COVID positive cases** is designated as a Micro Containment Zone

Minimum period of Micro Containment is **10 days**. This Period can be extended one week at a time if a new case is found in last 7 days.

**District RRTs to undertake mapping of cases** and contacts along with active surveillance by ASHA workers/Community Volunteers

**Perimeter Control** to ensure no unchecked outward movement of population from micro-containment zones and to check influx of population into the zones

Currently, there are **143 Micro Containment Zones across 17 districts** in Punjab.

# Testing Facilities - RT PCR

## 9 Government Facilities

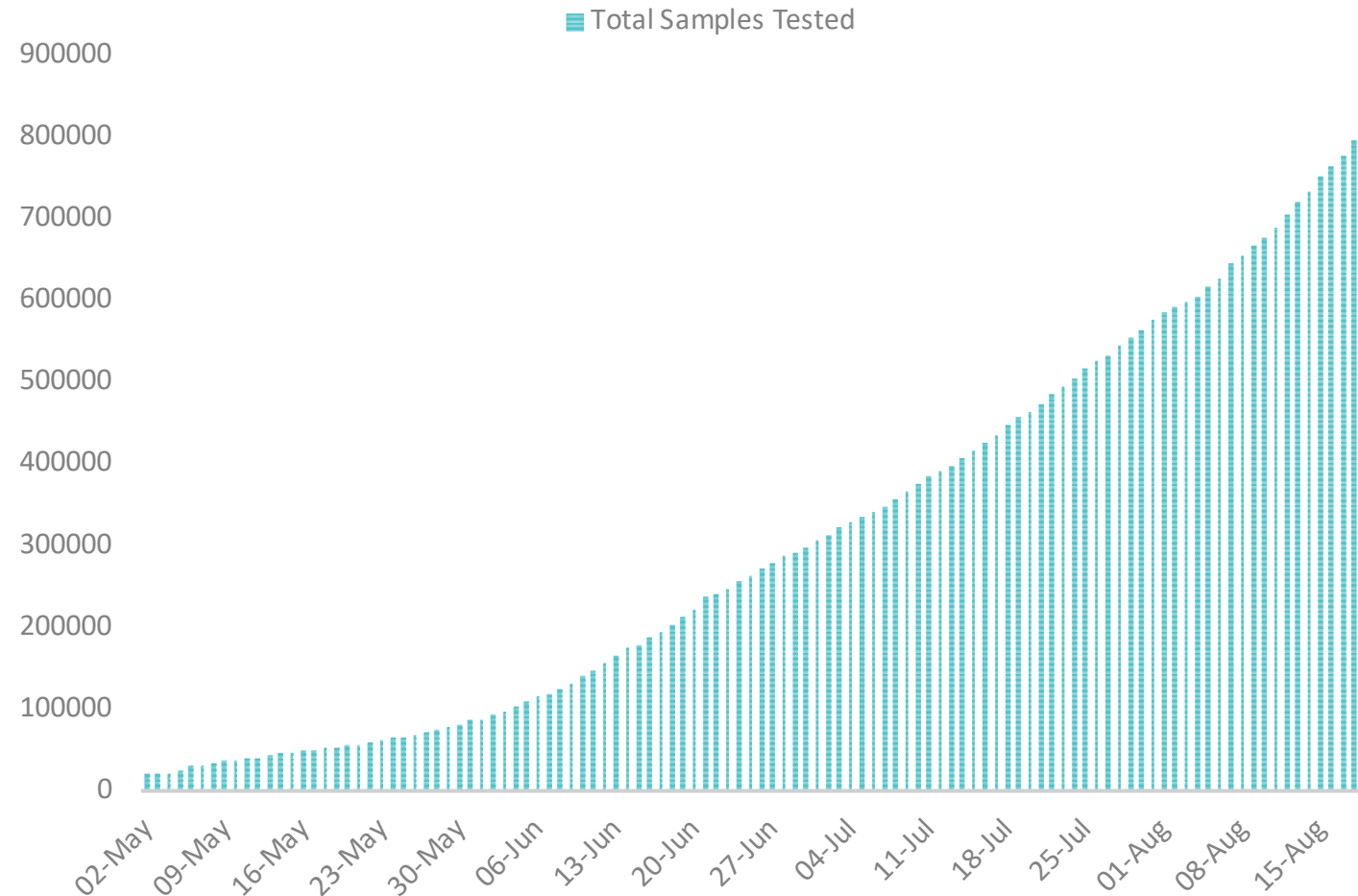
- GMC Amritsar (Capacity - 5000)
- GMC Patiala (Capacity - 5000)
- BFUHS Faridkot (Capacity - 5000)
- GADVASU, Ludhiana (Capacity - 250)
- RDDL, Jalandhar(Capacity - 250)
- Forensic Science Lab, Mohali(Capacity - 250)
- Punjab Biotech Incubator, Mohali(Capacity - 250)
- PGI Chandigarh (Capacity - 150)
- IMTech Chandigarh (Capacity - 100)

**44 Private Facilities approved by ICMR for testing in Punjab.**

**As on 18.08.2020**

GMC Amritsar and GMC Patiala got **approved in March 2020** for RT-PCR COVID19 testing with a **capacity of 40 tests/day**. The **current capacity of Punjab Govt. Facilities is 16,000/day**.

From 4 tests per million population on March 16<sup>th</sup> to **26,537 tests per million population on August 18<sup>th</sup>** while the current **Indian average is 23,566 tests per million population**.



# COVID-19 Treatment Facilities

## LEVEL 1



### COVID CARE CENTRES

- Asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic cases
- **12,762 beds in the state of readiness.**
- **7058 beds operationalized.**

## LEVEL 2



### COVID HEALTH CENTRES

- Mild to moderately symptomatic cases
- **5270 beds in Government facilities**

## LEVEL 3



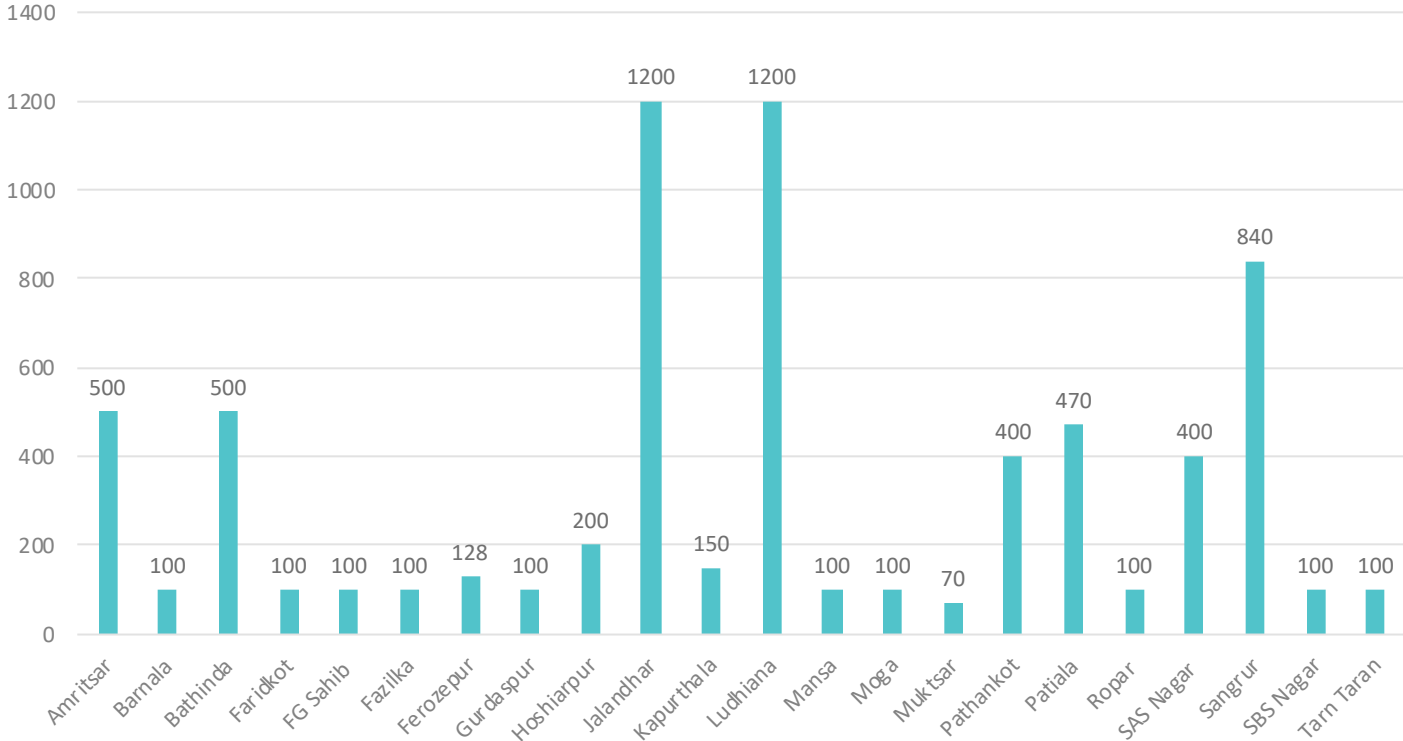
### COVID HOSPITALS

- Severely symptomatic and Critical Care patients
- At present, there are **290 level 3 beds in Govt facilities**

# COVID Care Centres

7058 Beds operationalized in CCCs

Level 1 Operational Bed Capacity



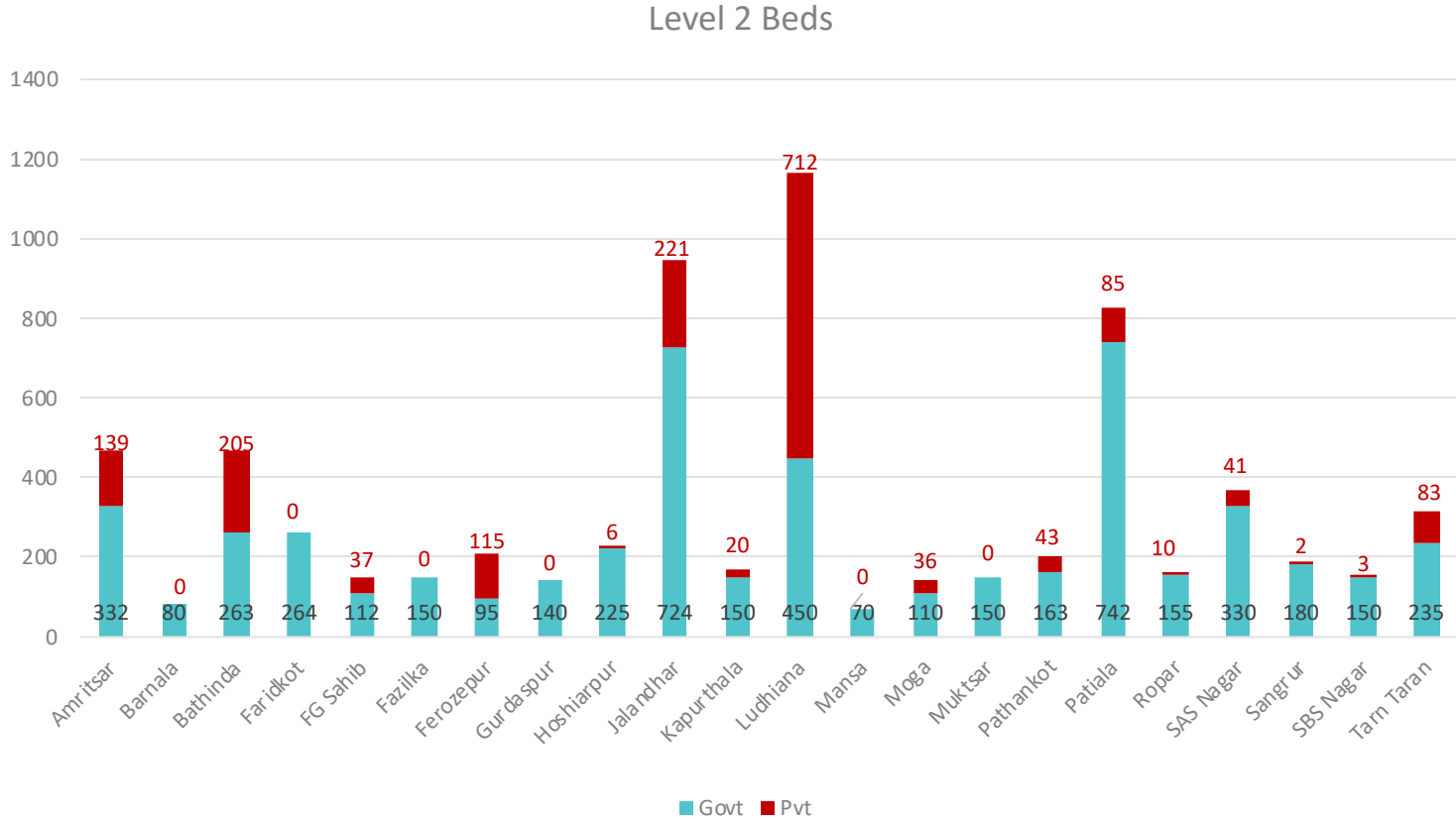
# COVID Care Centres (Video)





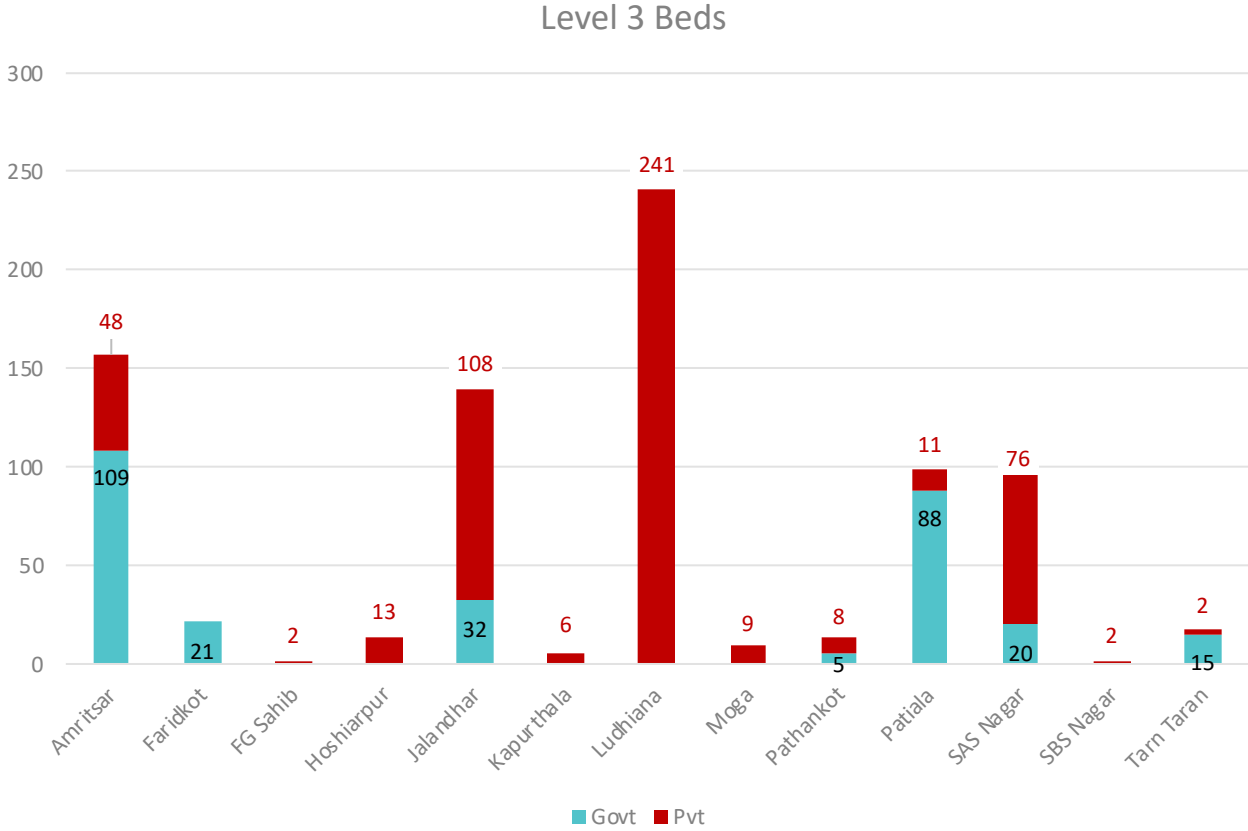
# COVID Health Centres

Level-II are hospital beds with oxygen supply. Total number of beds is 7028



# COVID Hospitals

At present, the level 3 bed strength in Punjab is a total of **816**



# Flu Corners

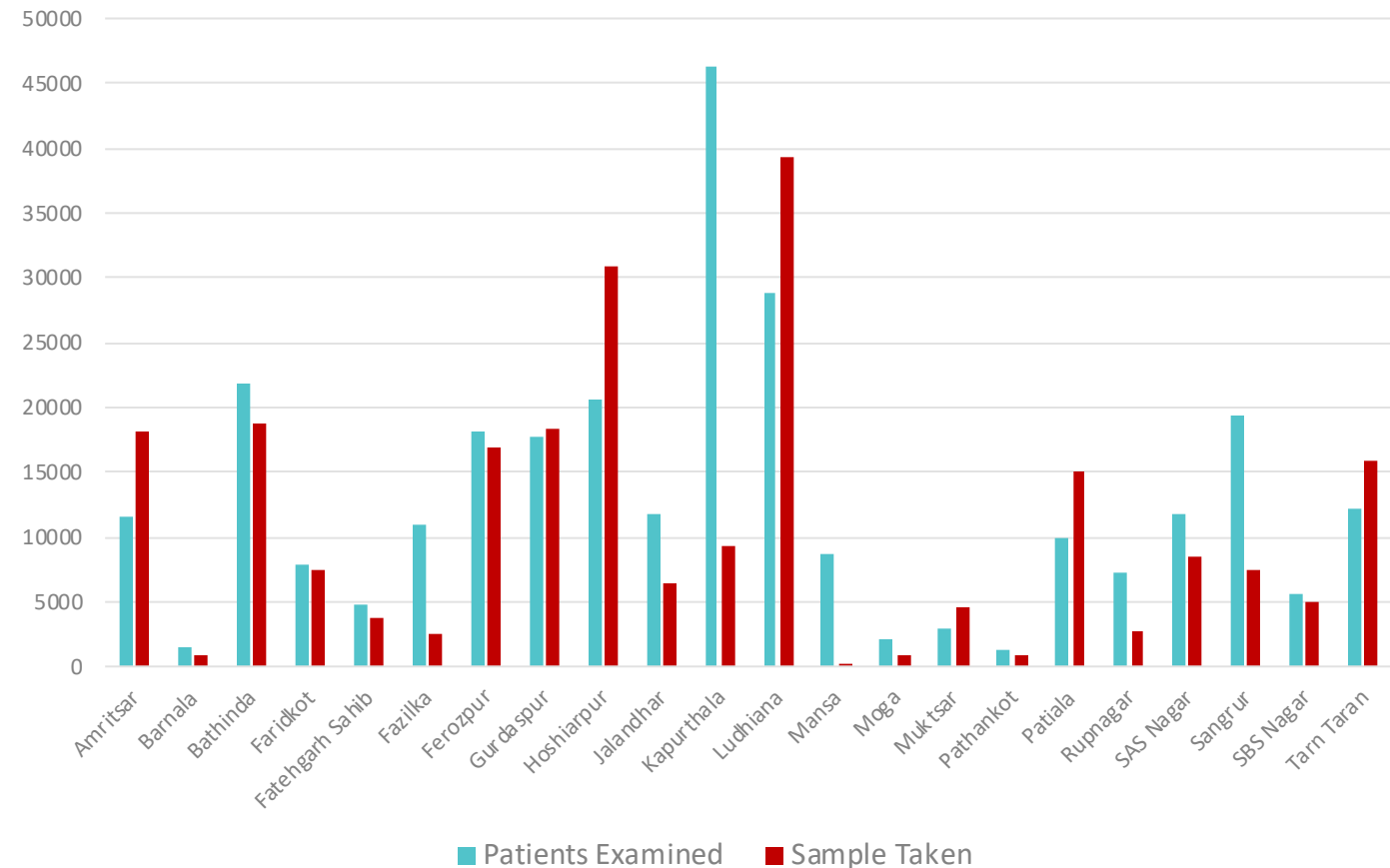
Flu corners are **set up in Hospitals to screen all suspected cases** of respiratory tract infections or cases presenting symptoms similar to those of coronavirus.

These serve as the **first points of contact** for these patients and ensure that **movement of such cases is restricted** in order to prevent the spread of the disease.

Flu corners have been **running in all the districts** of Punjab.

Punjab has set up **226 Flu Corners** (19 in District Hospitals, 42 in Sub-Divisional Hospitals, 18 in Public Health Centers, 142 in Community Health Centers, 2 in Govt. Medical Colleges. and 3 in other facilities) **with sample collection facility in 202 Flu Corners.**

Flu Corner report from 15-04-2020 to 19-08-2020



# Pool Testing

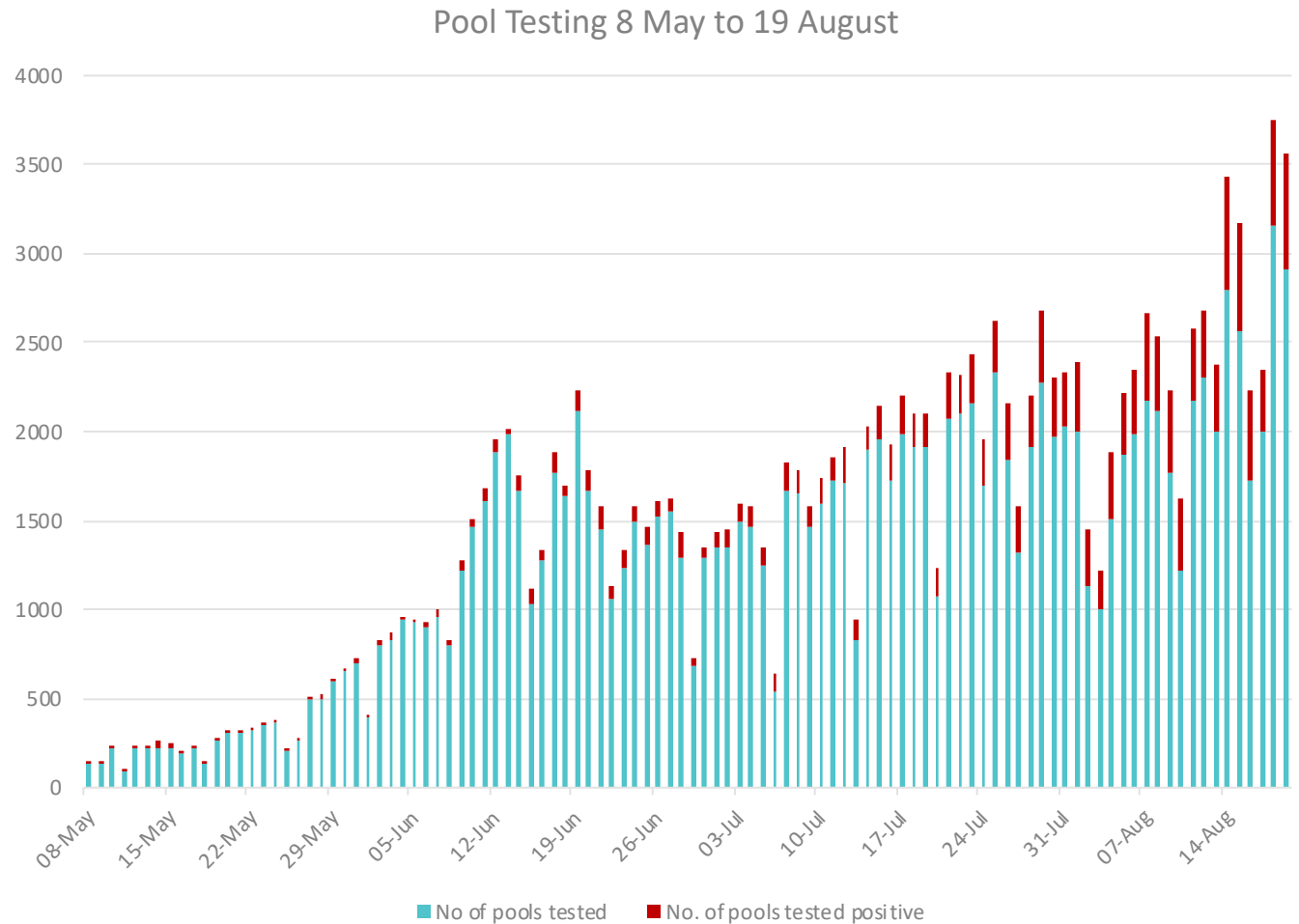
A **specimen pool** comprising of multiple individual patient specimens (2-5 individuals) is tested, followed up by individual testing, only if a pool tests positive.

Pool Testing is being carried out in **3 Government facilities:**

- GMC Amritsar
- GMC Faridkot
- GMC Patiala

Pool testing had been stopped from 30 April to 7 May as per ICMR guidelines in order to give priority to returnees

Punjab was the **first to conduct pool testing** trials in GMC Amritsar and GMC Patiala on **15 April**. Current capacity for pooled testing is **4000 samples per lab per day (approx.) 6,84,255** pooled samples tested as on **19 August 2020**



# TrueNat Testing

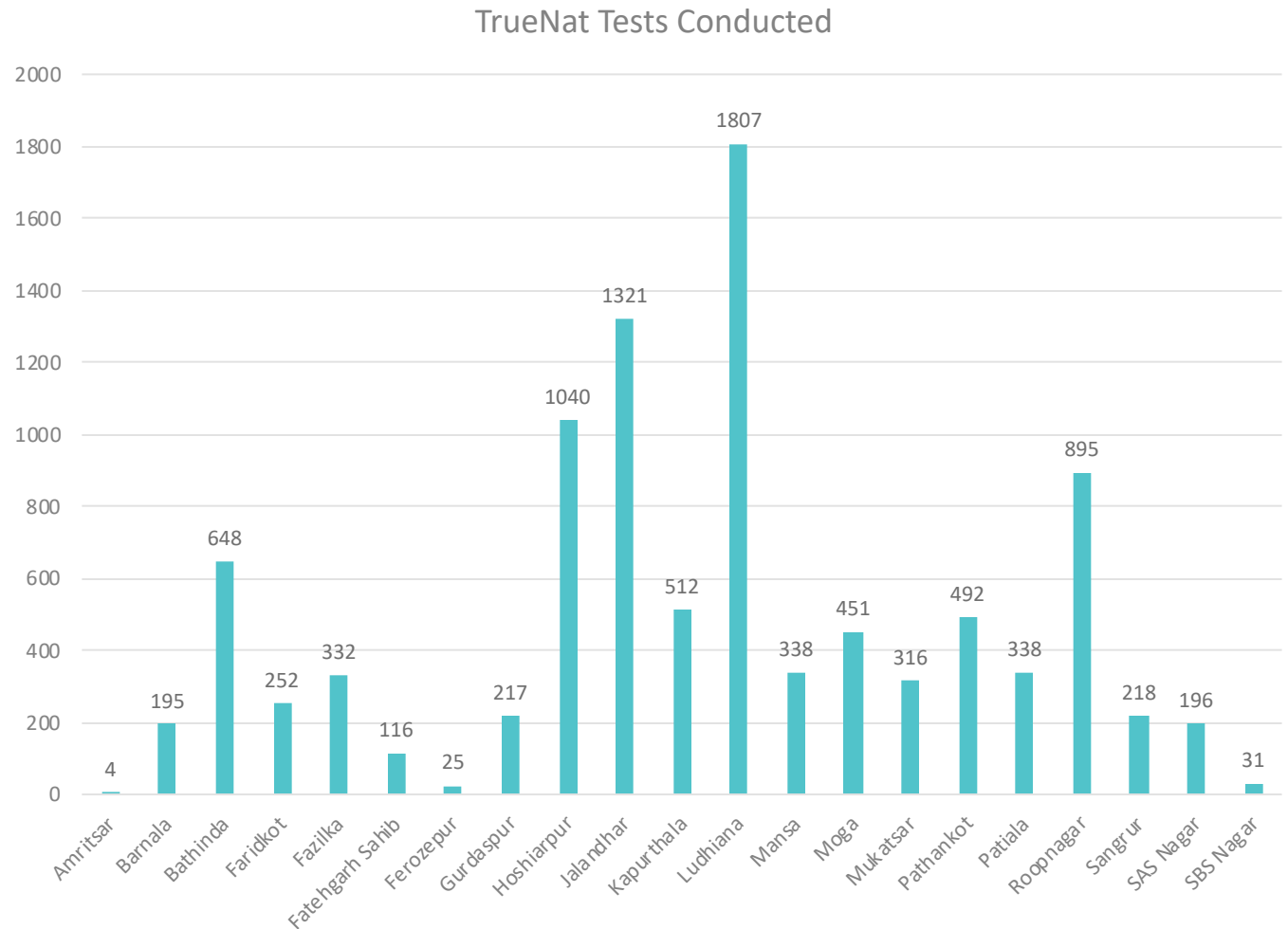
Advantage of TrueNat Testing is that the testing time is only **60 minutes**. It is being used for emergency cases of COVID 19.

Total Capacity of TrueNat testing in Punjab is **2000**.

Private hospitals can send urgent samples for testing in government facilities for **INR 1500**. 1068 such samples have been tested.

*As on 19.08.2020*

There are **27 TrueNat Machines** operational at District Hospitals in Punjab. Total **9744 tests done** so far, out of which 981 were positive.



# Rapid Antigen Testing

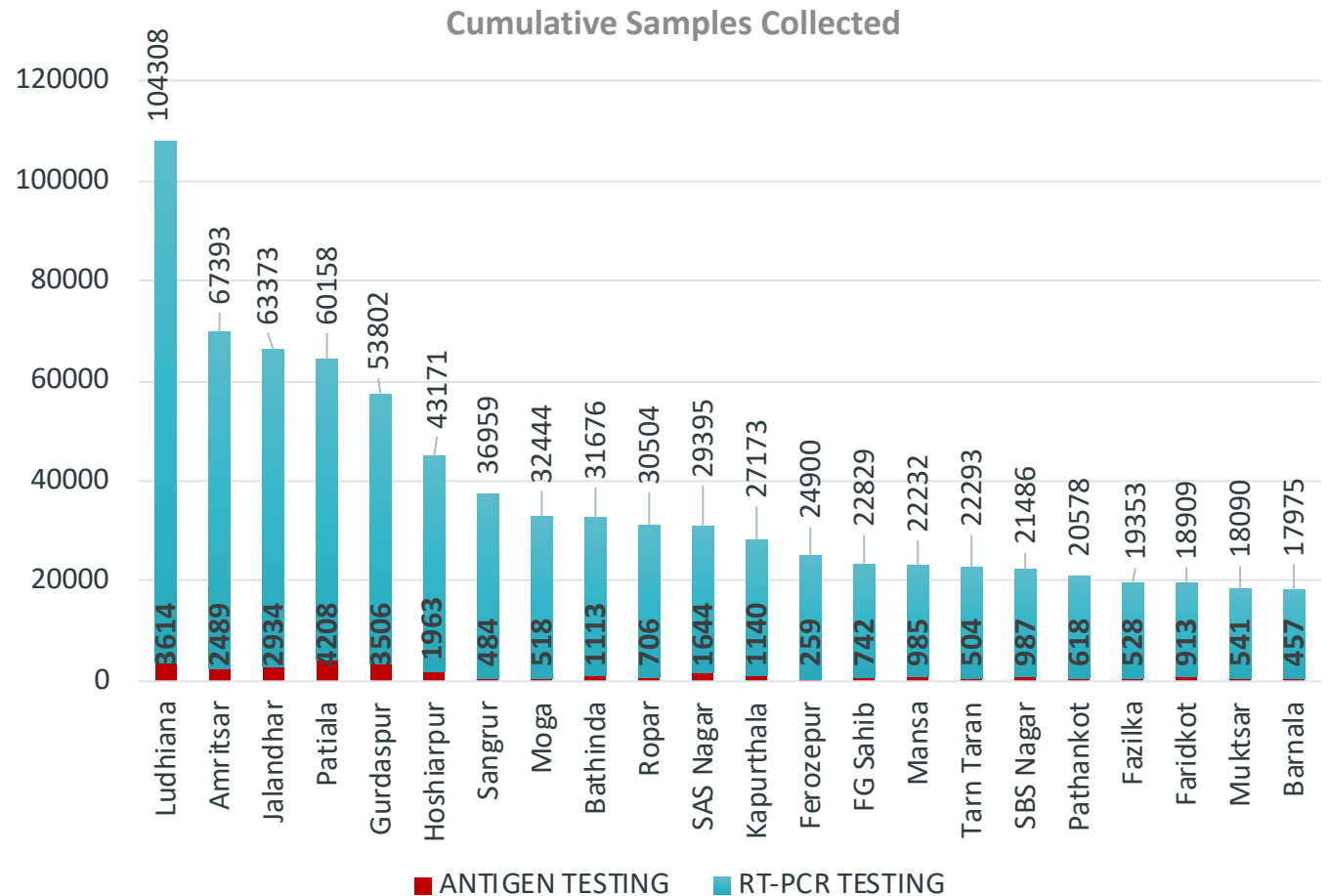
Rapid Antigen Testing shall **reduce the turnaround time** considerably and aid in quick diagnosis and management. If the result is positive, then it is taken as confirmed. However, if it is negative, then re-testing is done through TrueNat and RT-PCR.

Following categories shall be tested using Rapid Antigen Tests:

- Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) patients
- Two categories of symptomatic patients
- Three categories of asymptomatic patients

*As on 18.08.2020*

Punjab government started COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Testing on **10<sup>th</sup> July 2020**. **5000 kits** were distributed in **8 districts** - Amritsar, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Mohali, Patiala, Kapurthala, FG Sahib and Ropar. Rapid Antigen Testing has now expanded to the entire State.



# Helpline Services

The Government of Punjab has operationalized **3 new helpline numbers** and individual district emergency response helpline numbers for citizens to access support and services from the Government.

This is in addition to the **2 existing helpline numbers** that are also being used to support COVID related concerns.

Everyday, data from all these numbers is analyzed to show the **type of calls, resolutions provided, geography and demography** of the callers to aid **evidence-based decision making.**



**112**

Single Emergency Helpline for anyone in distress

**17,323 calls received per day** (avg.) as on 18.08.2020



**108**

Ambulance service for medical emergency

**7,273 calls received per day** (avg.) as on 18.08.2020



**104**

Health emergency number

**4,712 calls received per day** (avg.) as on 18.08.2020



**1800**

Dial a Doctor (launched on 31 March 2020)

**1,075 calls received per day** (avg.) as on 19.08.2020

# Directives and Protocols Issued

1

**Directives for Unregistered Medical Practitioners** to not treat COVID-19 Suspects/Positive Cases

2

**Guidelines and Checklists** for Establishing and Operationalizing COVID Care Centres

3

**Guidelines** regarding sanitizations of ambulances, oxygen cylinders, x-ray machines, and other equipment/ Hospital furniture

4

**Guidelines** for infection prevention and control for isolation



# Advisories Issued [1/5]

1

[Updated Advisory on use of Air-Conditioning in Residential Commercial and Hospital settings](#)

2

[Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization while carrying out works under MNREGA](#)

3

[Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization of the Public or Private Sector Industries](#)

4

[Updated Advisory Hygiene and Sanitization of Office Spaces or Workplaces](#)

5

[Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization by the Plying Goods Vehicles and their Drivers](#)

6

[Advisory on Cleaning and Maintenance of Mobile Phones](#)

7

[Updated Advisory on Safe Farming Operations \(Procurement and Marketing\)](#)

8

[Updated Advisory on Safety of Food and other Essential Household Items](#)

# Advisories Issued [2/5]

9

[Updated General and specific Advisory on Opening and Maintaining Cattle Fairs](#)

10

[Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization of Shops](#)

11

[Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization at Petrol Pumps](#)

12

[Advisory for the Special Care of Elderlies or Senior Citizens](#)

13

[Updated Advisory on Hygiene and Sanitization of Sewa Kendras and their Staff](#)

14

[Advisory of Socialization during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

15

[Revised Advisory for Masks](#)

16

[Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of State Transport Undertakings](#)

# Advisories Issued [3/5]

17

**Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Sewa Kendras and their Staff**

18

**Advisory for the Special Care of Elderlies/Senior Citizens**

19

**Advisory on Maintaining and Ensuring the Safety of Food and Other Essential Household Items**

20

**Advisory on Maintaining the Hygiene and Sanitization of Shops**

21

**Advisory for the People Involved in Frequent Interstate/Intrastate Movement**

22

**Advisory regarding Home Quarantine of Returnees from Within the Country**

23

**SOP regarding Returnees coming from Outside the Country**

24

**Advisory on Cleaning and Maintenance of Mobile Phones**

# Advisories Issued [4/5]

25

**Advisory on Opening and Maintaining Cattle Fairs**

26

**Advisory on Maintaining the Hygiene and Sanitization of Barber Shops/Hair-cut Salons**

27

**Advisory for Hotel and Suitable Lodging Facility for Health Staff**

28

**Advisory on the Use of Air-Conditioning in Residential/Commercial/Hospital Settings**

29

**Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Bank Spaces and their Staff**

30

**Advisory on Safe Farming Operations (Procurement and Marketing)**

31

**Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Public/Private Sector Industries and Staff**

32

**Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization while Carrying-out Works Under MNREGA**

# Advisories Issued [5/5]

33

[Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Office Spaces and Staff](#)

34

[Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization at Petrol Pumps](#)

35

[Advisory on Maintaining Hygiene and Sanitization of Plying Goods Vehicles and Drivers/Workers](#)

# Migrant Laborers

The Government of Punjab has proactively ensured that needs of migrants in the State are given utmost priority.

The Government of Punjab has facilitated the return of more than **5,43,494 migrant workers** to their home states.



## Cooked Food

**21,98,659 cooked food packets** distributed across 22 districts by the State Govt while **NGOs distributed 1.84 crore packets.**



## Ration Packets

**4,045 ration packets** distributed across 22 districts by the State Govt while **NGOs distributed 4,01,814 packets.**



## Shelter Camps

More than **700 shelter camps** had been established across 22 districts. **Currently there are 199 Migrant Labor Shelters.**



## Rail and Bus Service

**Govt. of Punjab spent Rs.29.37 crores** and paid for railway tickets of **5,18,267 persons in 399 trains** In addition, **25,227 persons have been carried in 862 buses** to other states.

# COVA Punjab

**1<sup>st</sup> Mobile App in India**, launched on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020, with **geotagging and geofencing features**

**11 States requested** Punjab for access to the App and its features

**51 Lac+ downloads**; Available on iOS AppStore and Android PlayStore.



Find nearest COVID patient



Geofencing of quarantined individuals



Contact tracing of positive cases



Report mass gathering



Real time dashboard and analytics



Order grocery and essential goods



Booking of Train Tickets



Plasma donor registration

# IT Initiatives [1/2]

1

To ensure smooth operations in Mandis during the procurement weeks under COVID-19, Punjab developed a unique centralized automated, logic-based tech platform to **issue e-Passes to farmers**. All movement in the Mandis were managed online.

2

A dedicated dashboard - **corona.punjab.gov.in** to analyse the trend and pattern of cases including prediction of future hotspots to help authorities to take timely decisions.

3

A platform - **covidhelp.punjab.gov.in** for people who want to go to their home states from Punjab and those wanting to return.

4

Punjab launched **tele-medicine & tele-counselling initiatives** for general patients other than COVID-19 to get consultation from home with the empaneled doctors/counselors through video call.

5

Deployed **UiPath RPA BOT to extract district specific information** from the email, coming from more than 20 district authorities. The BOT saves the information in respective district folder.



# IT Initiatives [2/2]

6

Punjab has initiated a **mass awareness campaign** to educate and inform its citizens across all the channels (**Radio, TV, Social Media, Print Media**) about this pandemic.

7

**eSanjeevani** (Online OPD), a CDAC Mohali's flagship integrated telemedicine solution was implemented across the state to connect with a network of senior doctors over video conferencing.

8

**Video Conferencing Solutions** are being leveraged to facilitate Work-from-Home for the staff along with important webinars and VCs by the CM and other administrative staff.

9

**Plasma donor registration** collaborated with DGR for testing and on boarding of portal/ software through COVA APP for registration of plasma volunteers.

# Other Actions

1

The first manufacturer of PPE in Punjab was approved on 27 March 2020. As on date there are **141 PPE kit manufacturers** approved by Government of India.

2

**Make in Punjab** - Punjab has 3 BIS and 1 DRDO approved **N-95 mask manufacturers**.

# COVID-19 Trainings Given

1

## Physical Training:

- **National ToT Batch on 6 March 2020**
- **110 Master Trainers on 9 March 2020**
- **6412 participants at the District Level**
- **23,797 participants at the Block Level**
- **227 Staff Members of Different Departments – Police, Social Security, Women and Child Development, Local Bodies and Agriculture**

2

## Online Training:

- **6812 MOs, Dental Doctors, SNs, AYUSH Doctors, RMOs, Pharmacists, LTs, etc.**
- **343 NUHM Staff**
- **546 Labor Room and SNCU Staff**
- **125 House-Keeping and Sanitation Workers**
- **91 participants from Prisons Department**

# COVID-19 Trainings Given

3

## Operation FATEH:

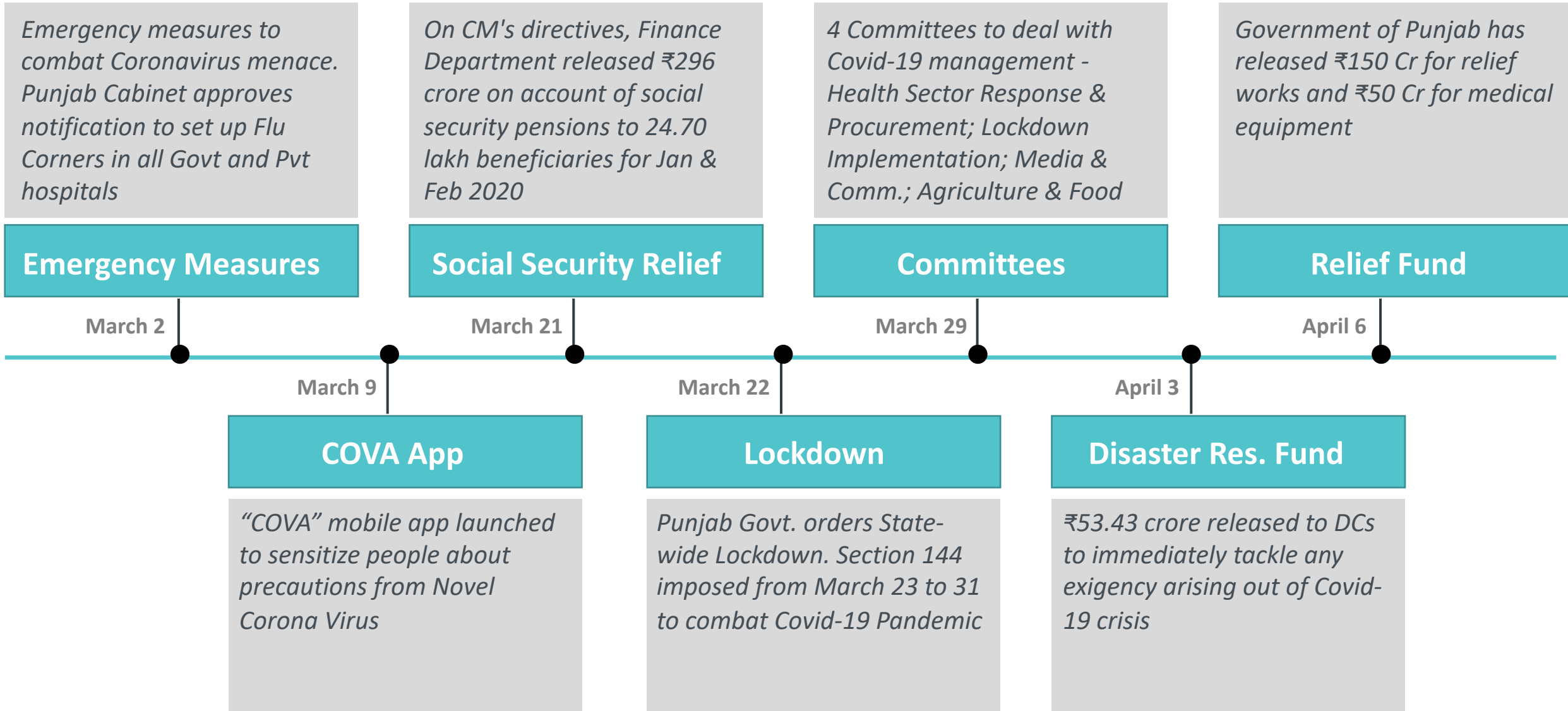
- **Expert Group Trainings under the Chairmanship of Prof. K.K. Talwar, experts from AIIMS New Delhi, PGIMER Chandigarh, CMC and DMC Ludhiana**
- **4409 participants trained as on 15 August 2020**

4

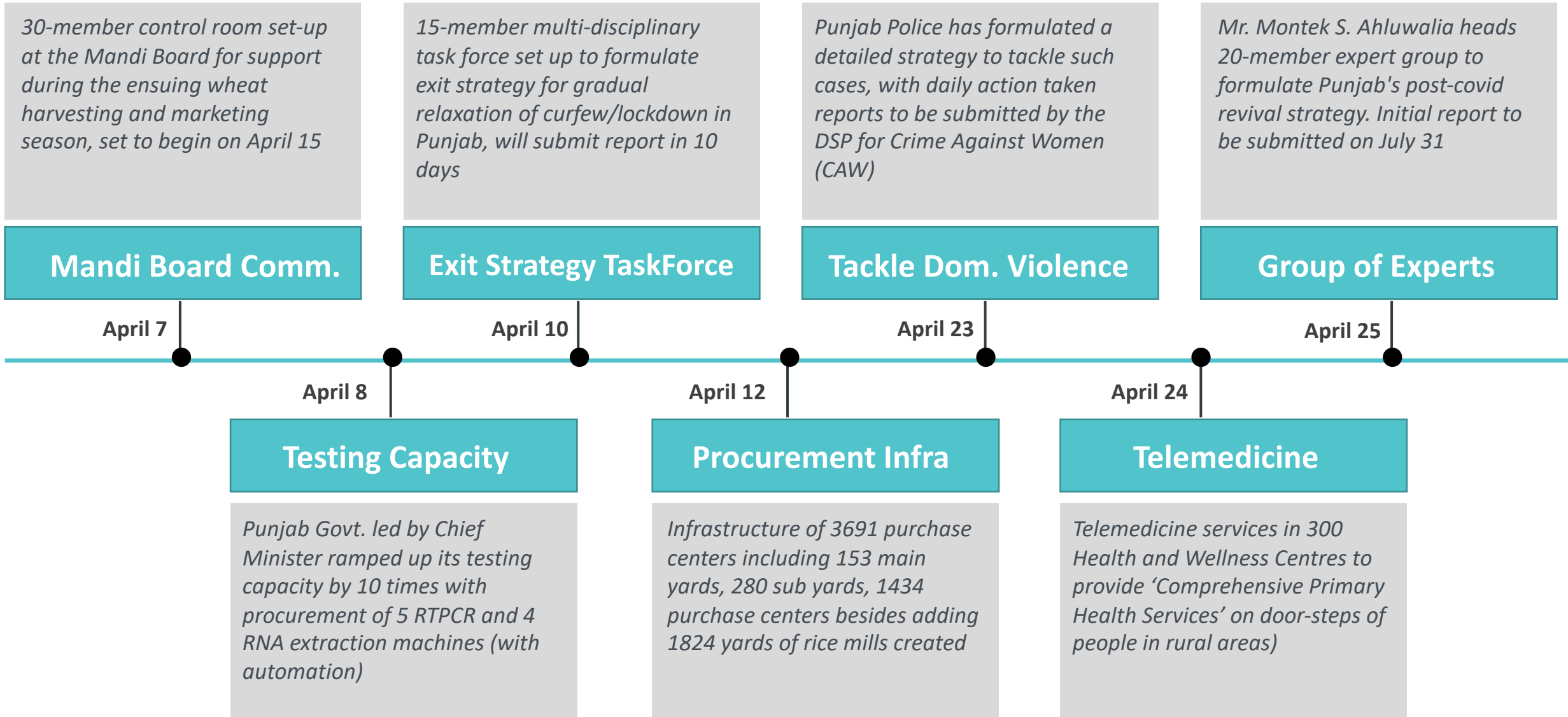
## I-GOT Trainings:

- **Integrated Government Online Training on DIKSHA app for capacity building of frontline workers**
- **Punjab placed at 2<sup>nd</sup> position currently**
- **Course completed by 2,91,917 participants as on 14 August 2020**

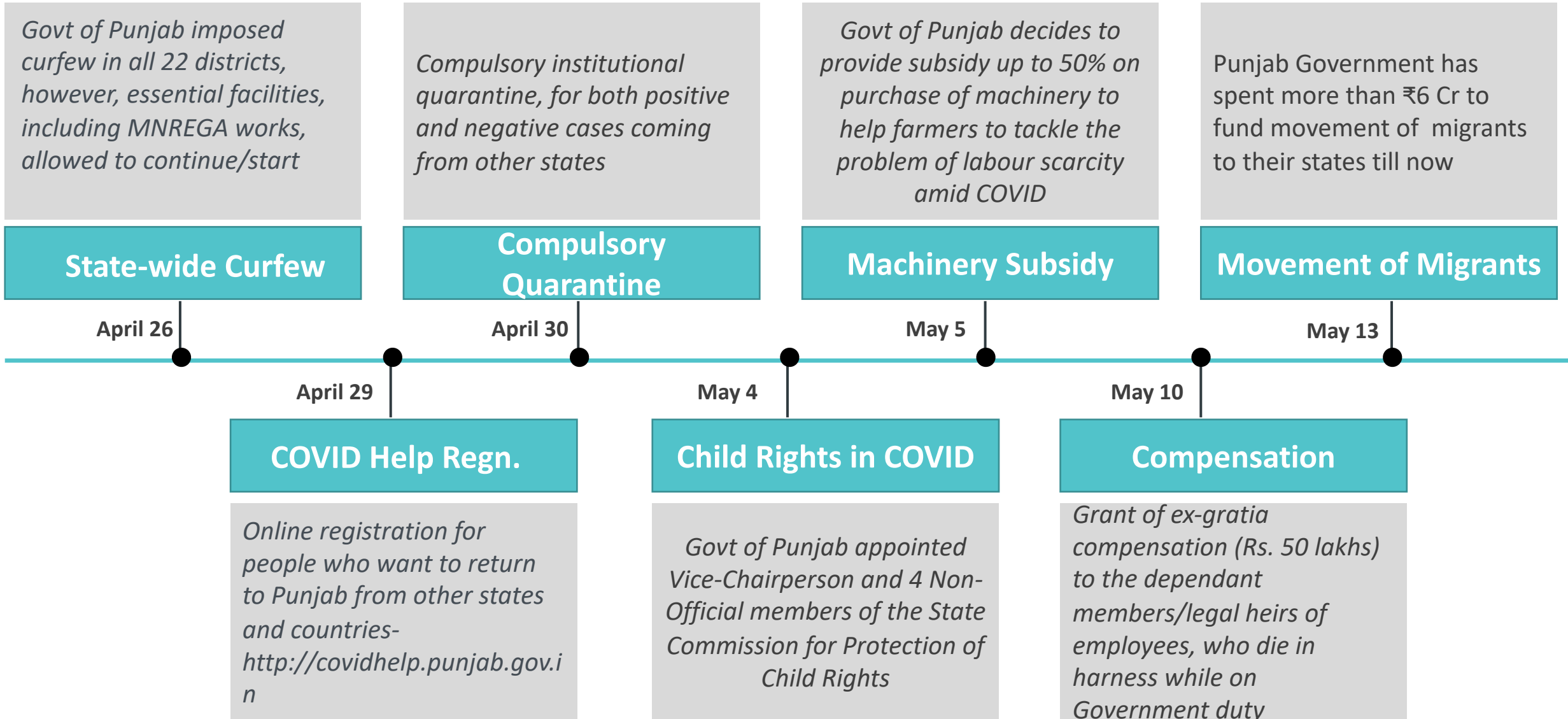
# Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [1/11]



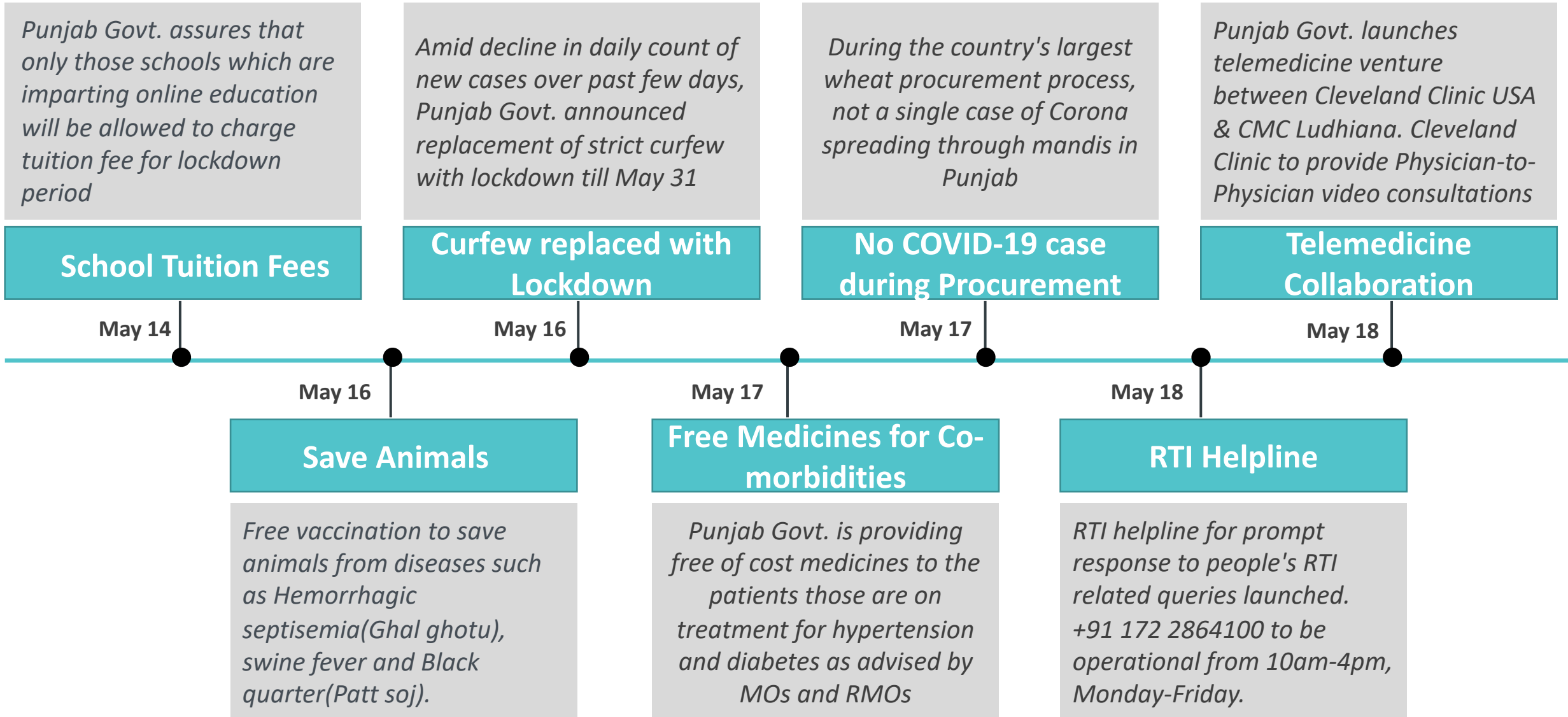
# Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [2/11]



# Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [3/11]

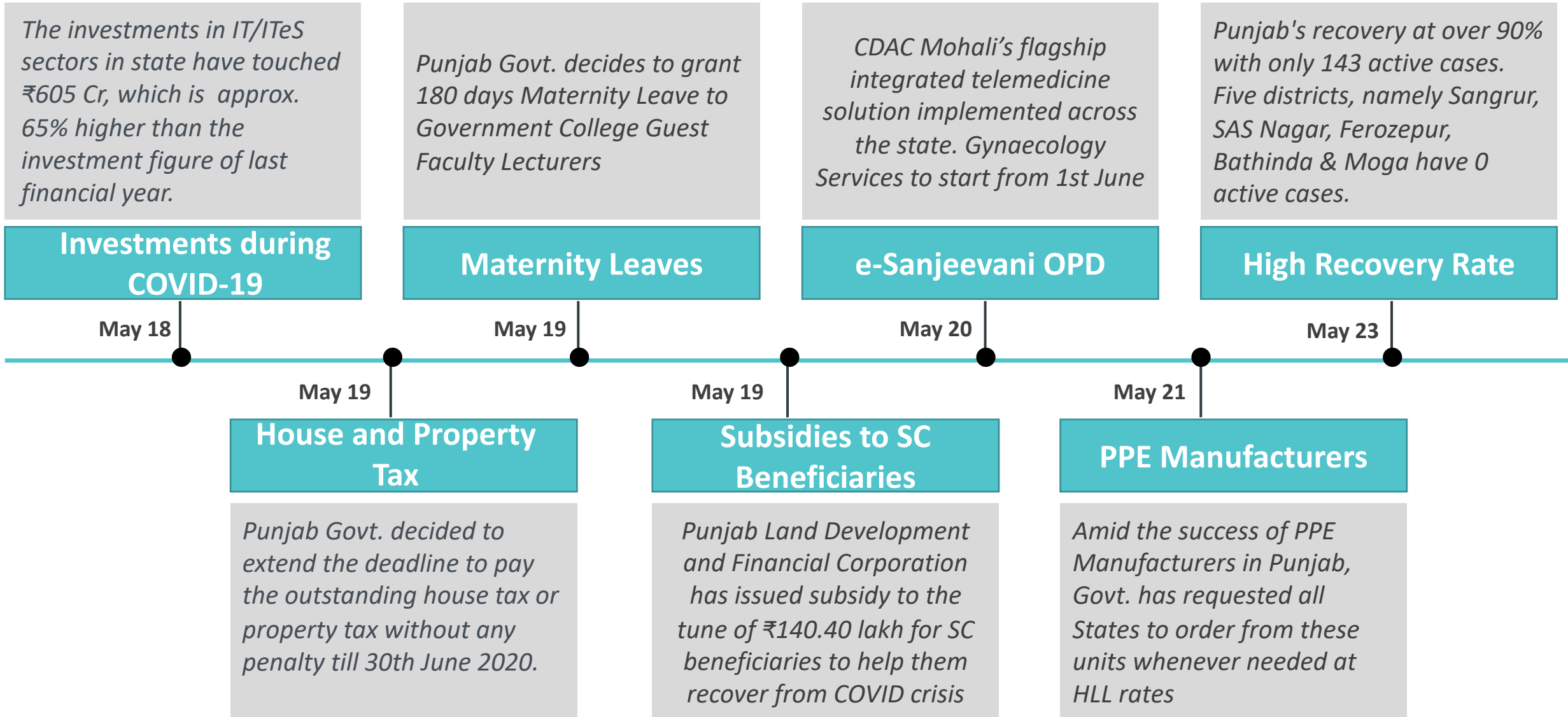


# Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [4/11]

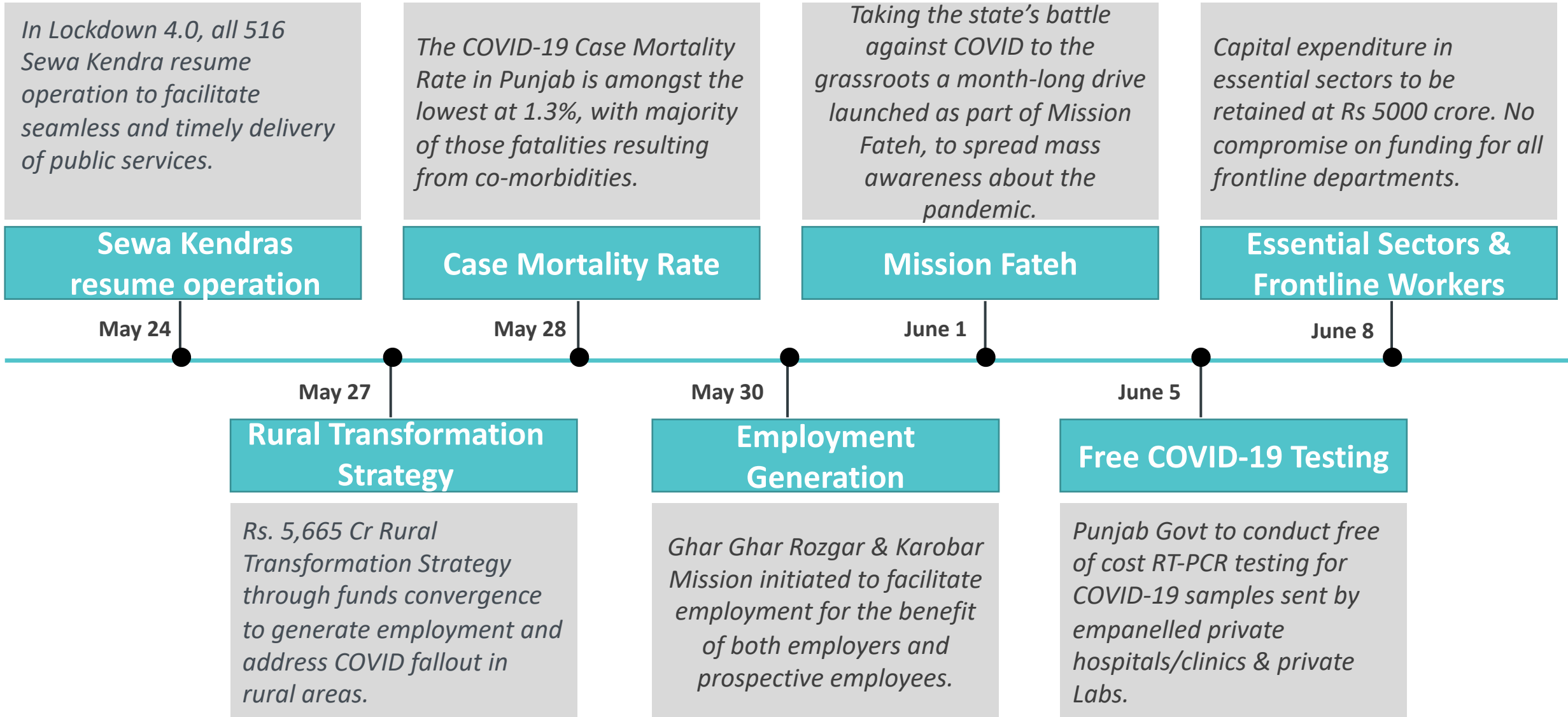




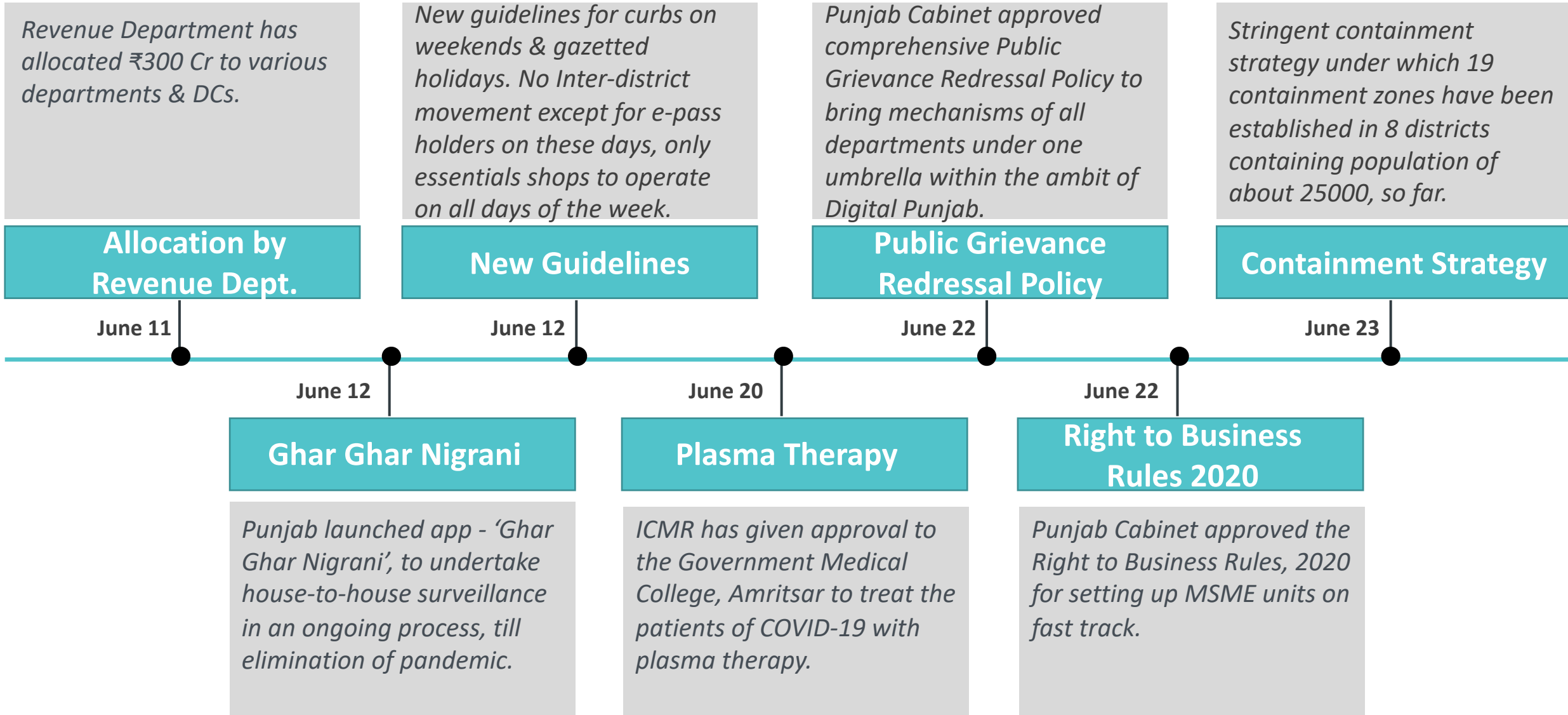
# Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [5/11]



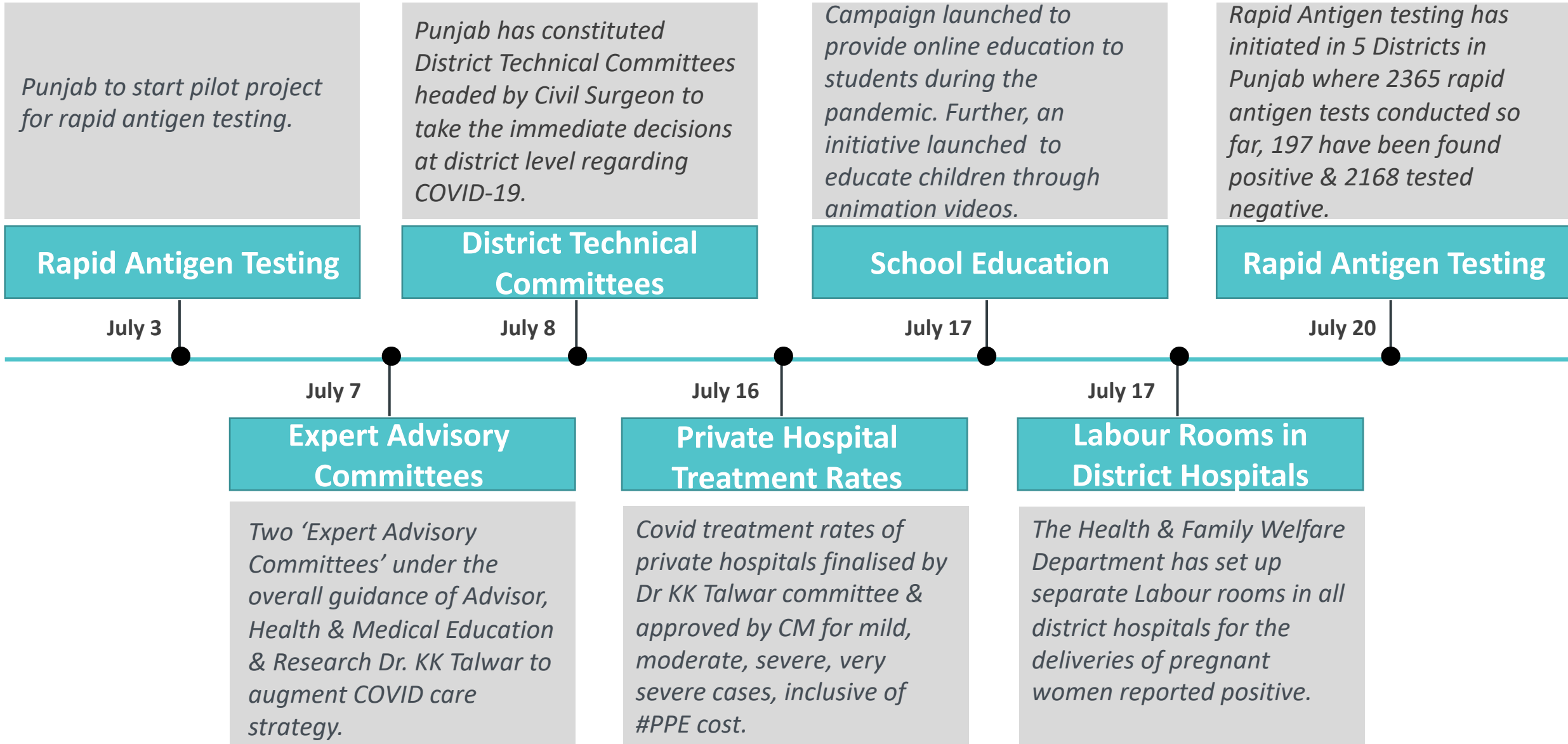
# Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [6/11]



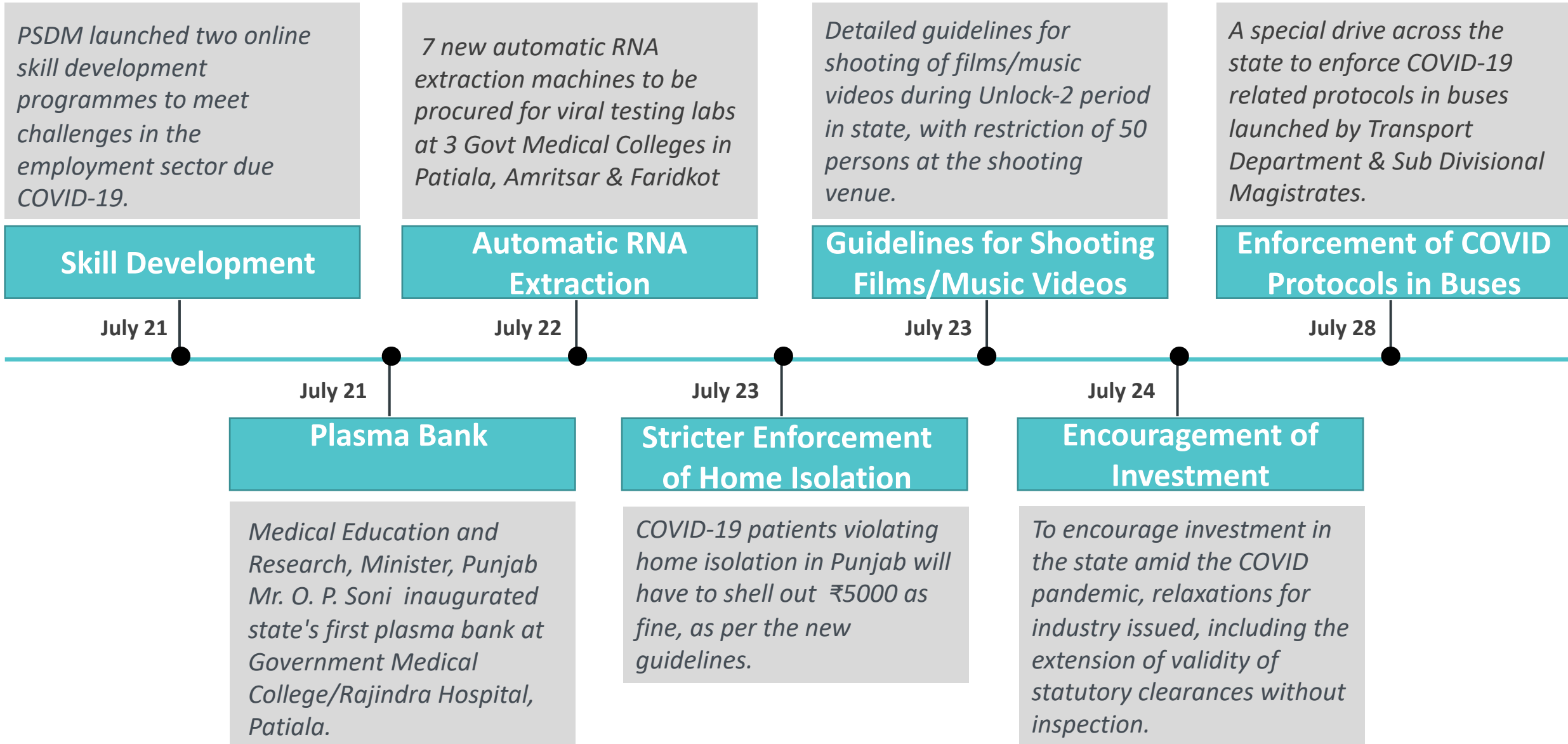
# Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [7/11]



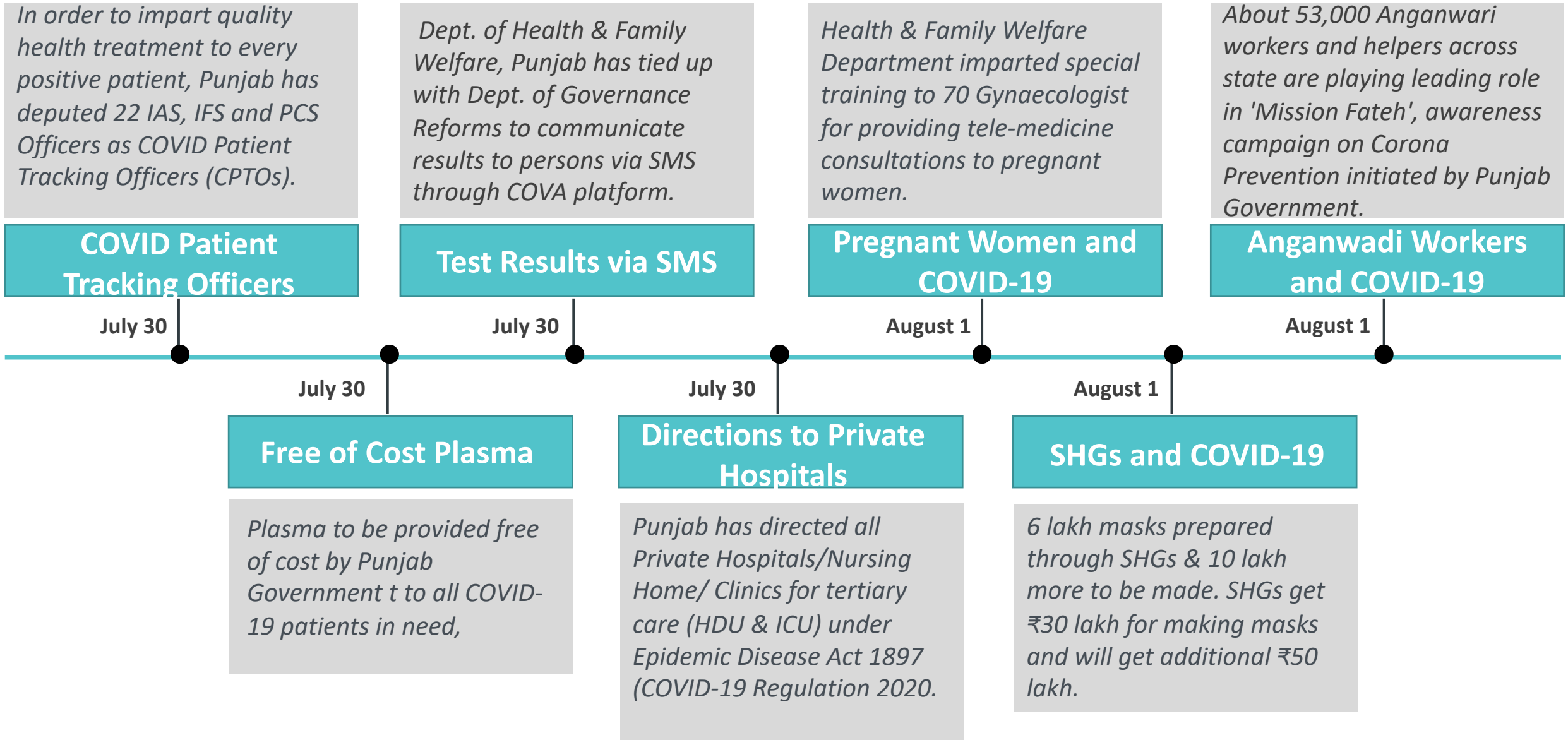
# Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [8/11]



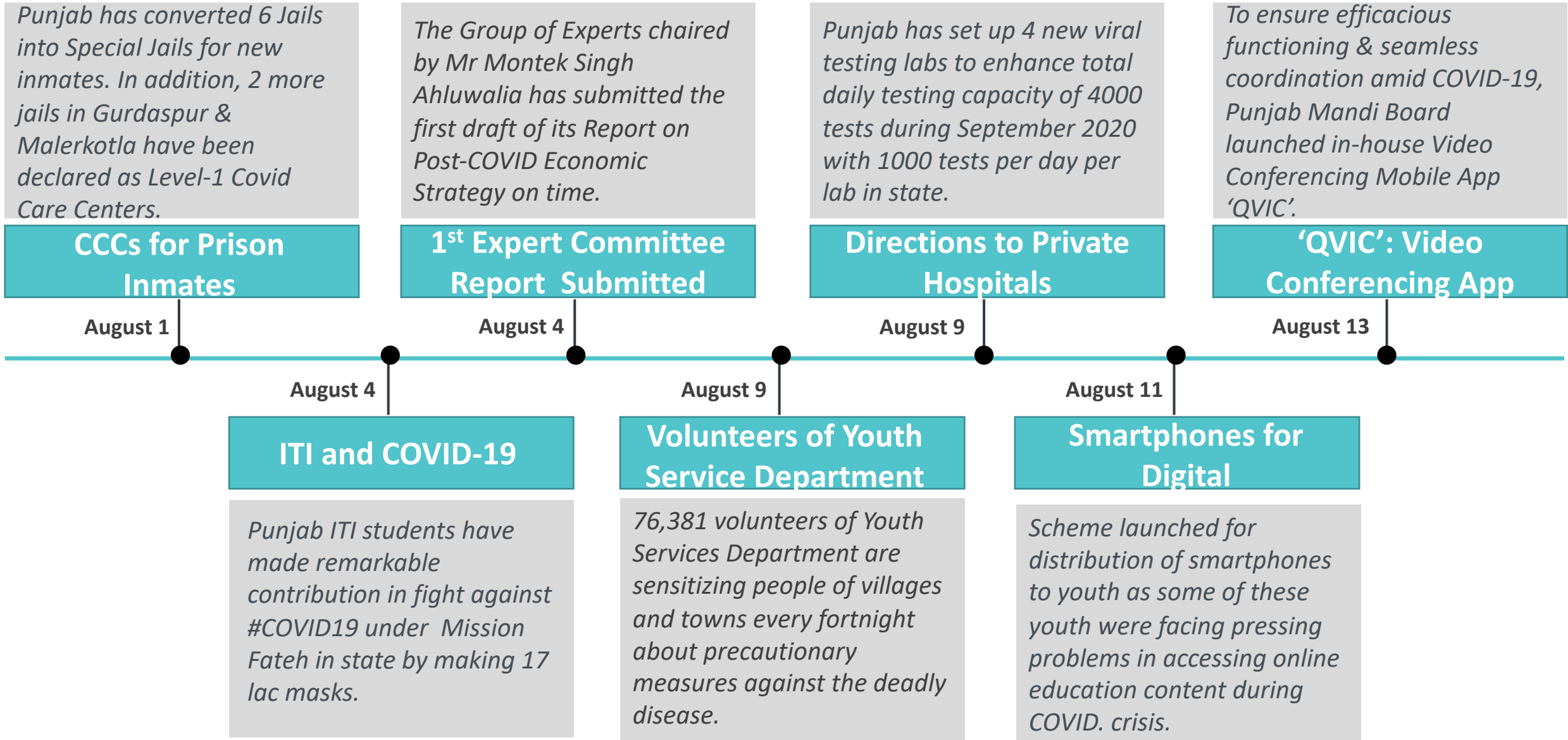
# Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [9/11]



# Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [10/11]



# Timeline of COVID-19 Response in Punjab [11/11]





**Thank You**

---