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Chandigarh, March 21:

In view of the spread of Novel Coronavirus (COVID 19), the Punjab Government's Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs on Saturday, added 2ply and 3ply surgical masks, N95 masks and hand sanitisers in the essential commodities list under which the fixed price will be charged by the shopkeepers from the consumers.

Disclosing this here today Food and civil supplies minister Mr Bharat Bhushan Ashu said that this decision has been taken taking serious note of the reports that after the spread of COVID-19, the Vendors, Stockiest, Dealers had started hoarding the products like Face-masks, Sanitisers and other allied products resulting which prices have skyrocketed.

Mr. Ashu said that The Punjab Government using powers conferred under the Punjab Commodities Price Marking and Display Control Order, 1992, has added 2ply and 3ply surgical masks, N95 masks and hand sanitisers in the essential commodities list.

Minister further said that concerned DFSCS directed to issue orders to vendors/stockists/dealers of these goods and other essential commodities to display consciously in the form prescribed in the schedule during the hours of business at the place as near to the entrance of his business premises as possible a list of Prices in Gurmukhi Script.