

DAILY UPDATE

Cox's Bazar

- The RRRC office issued a notice advising to avoid mass gatherings. ISCG notified that campaigns involving large crowds should not be carried out. To prevent panic, it asked to continue behavior change communication and awareness.
- Government is allowing activities on health, hygiene, cleanliness, and COVID-19 prevention in the camps, for groups with less than 20 members.
- Three individuals are now in home quarantine, according to the Cox's Bazar Civil Surgeon Office.
- The District Commissioner of Cox's Bazar has banned mass gatherings and entrance of tourists at beaches. Hotels are instructed to vacate their service by 20 March.

Camp

- Today, all the 2 area offices and 8 branch offices have commenced a cleanliness campaign to promote the practice of personal hygiene. An orientation session was held in Ukhiya regarding raising awareness on COVID-19 organised by HCMP health sector for participants and community health workers.

HCMP

- Pregnant employees of HCMP, Cox's Bazar, were instructed to work from home from 22 March until further notice.
- HCMP management is considering to enact a one-day work from home to experience the range of operation management to address this crisis.
- Guidelines for sharing any messages and news in email and social media related to COVID-19 were sent to all employees.
- As a safety measure, 25,000 masks will be given to the relevant staff and volunteers. HCMP ensured safety kits with adequate supplies of handwash and sanitisers to all offices.
- Hand cleansing and sanitisation stations have been installed in front of all HCMP offices and branch offices in the camps. The security personnel are strictly advised to ensure everyone sanitises their hands before entering the offices.
- HCMP management team is profiling an essential and non-essential staff list in office as a part of preparedness.
- HCMP's communications department will continue producing a daily situation update report until further notice.
- HCMP management decided to postpone all kind of trainings and meetings that cannot maintain proper social distance, eg, meeting of not more than 10 people.
- HCMP management and sectors are constantly reviewing the situation and continuing the coordination with RRRC, District administration, ISCG and Civil Surgeon Office.

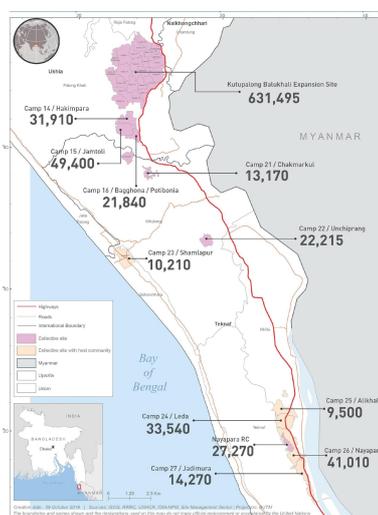
PROFILE ON THE GROUND

HCMP STAFF: 2,361

VOLUNTEERS: 4,211

PEOPLE IN NEED: 1.3 M

* 29 February 2020



Shastho Batayon: 16263

IEDCR Hotline

01944333222

01937000011

01937110011

01927711784-5

01550064901-05

For more details

<https://www.iedcr.gov.bd>
<http://www.brac.net/covid19>

BACKGROUND

World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 as pandemic in affected countries. IEDCR reported 17 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 1 death as of 19 March 2020 in Bangladesh. Along with the other parts of the country, Cox's Bazar is also at a great risk as it is hosts world's largest refugee camps. Cox's Bazar, in southeastern Bangladesh, hosts one of the world's biggest refugee camps, and faces the potential risk of a COVID-19 outbreak. There is a need for immediate targeted actions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the Rohingya camps, and its surrounding areas where hundreds of humanitarian workers are involved in the response and management of the Rohingya crisis. The crisis is a multidimensional humanitarian problem. The spread of COVID-19 in the camps may create unforeseeable consequences, and without proper precautionary measures, the situation may quickly go out of control.

OVERALL SUMMARY

To ensure the precautions and safety of the employees, various steps have been taken and guidelines provided by the COVID-19 Preparedness Taskforce.

Procurement and distribution of the hygiene kits for the employees and volunteers have been settled. Considering the special needs of the pregnant employees during this crisis, the taskforce asked them to work from home from 22 March until further notice. The taskforce will meet twice a day to monitor and evaluate the situation.

Let's spread awareness, not fear.