

## Preparedness and Response Plan for COVID-19 (PHPA-I) (Rev)

April 2, 2020

In view of the emergent situation, this Plan of Action (PoA) or SOP is prepared to help keep the Project employees and their family members well informed, healthy, reduce exposure to COVID-19 through regular information sharing and slow the spread of the virus if found prevalent, to the extent possible with the help of the Wangdue Dzongkhag Administration. There shall be a whole-of-Project effort to put in place a local & robust mechanism to supplement the National and Wangdue Dzongkhag incident management systems. This SOP shall mainly focus on the virus prevention through rigorous advocacy, inspection, surveillance, monitoring and reporting on regular basis by the task force (TF) members who shall play a pivotal role for prevention, preparedness and response within the project.

### 1. Project Information

The Project's construction activities are spread over five Gewogs of Thedtsho, Rubesa, Gase Tshogom, Gase Tshowom and Dagar.

The Table below shows the number of people living/working in the various places located under the five Gewogs:

Sl. #	Agency	Place of Residence/Work	Population		Total
			Nationals	Expats	
1	PHPA-I & II	Bjimthangkha	1,259	79	1,338
2	WAPCOS (Consultant)	Bjimthangkha	18	22	44
3	L&T (Dam work Contractor)	Metsina, Hesothangkha, Lawakha & Taksha	210	498	708
4	HCC/Steel Works/Precision (Power House)	Langletsawa, Ruchikha, Dhentri, Gaychuthang, Dungkar Bjag	23	448	471
5	BHEL/Fitwell/PowerMech/NK Engg. (E&M)	Langletsawa, Khuma (Adit-1), Drema (Adit-2), Rurichhu, Basochhu	32	118	150
6	SK Systems	Langletsa, Ruchekha	1	10	11
7	Hyosung	Drema (Adit-2)	9	1	10
8	T-Kunzom Cons.	Bjimthangkha	20	4	24
9	Tashi Thuendrel Lerig	Bjimthangkha	2	6	8
10	DK Cons.	Jatshokha	8	16	24
11	Bumzang Cons.	Basochhu Waterfall	11	-	11
12	Bjimthangkha Pry. School	Bjimthangkha	361	-	-
<b>Total</b>			<b>1,954</b>	<b>1,202</b>	<b>2,799*</b>

\*The total does not include students and teachers as most of them are counted under Sl. No. 1.

The PHPA-I has a Primary Health Center (PHC) established by Ministry of Health and located in Bjimthangkha residential complex which caters to the Project employees and the nearby communities. The Centre is manned by a Sr. Clinical Officer (SCO), a Health Assistant (HA) and a Pharmacy Technician.

On the Contractor's side, L&T has 2 full-fledged First Aid Centers equipped with 2 ambulance vehicles located at Dam site and Taksha which is manned by a Doctor and a helper. Likewise, HCC has established a Clinic with an ambulance vehicle at Dhentri (Power House area) manned by a Sr. HA.

## 2. Preparation and Response

The following constitutes the preparation and response mechanism as part of the overall plan of action:

- i) Education/Communication, Awareness, Surveillance, Coordination, Monitoring & Reporting (EASCMR);
- ii) To avoid panic and confusion in the work place and rather remain alert and prepared;
- iii) Thermal screening of employees/families and visitors at the main gate;
- iv) Setting up of hand washing facilities, sanitizing hands & disinfecting work spaces;
- v) Quarantine (during which use of Face masks will be mandatory & travel history and contact tracing will be ascertained);
- vi) Patient Referral in consultation with Dzongkhag ICS;
- vii) Monitoring of Laborers & family members coming to the Project site after their quarantine periods.

## 3. Measures and Action Framework

Sl. #	Measures/Actions	Lead Coordtr.	Collaboration	Remarks
1	Education/Communication, Awareness, Surveillance & Coordination.	CSO, PHPA-I	Dissemination through WhatsApp & WeChat messages to Safety Officers of respective Agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To avoid panic and confusion in the work place and instead remain alert and prepared.</li> <li>- Any incidences or suspected cases shall be immediately isolated by the respective Agencies and report to JMD for further reporting to Dzongkhag ICS.</li> </ul>
2	Thermal screening of employees/families and visitors at the main gate.	CSO, PHPA-I	In collaboration with Project's Security staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only single Thermal Scanner could be purchased due to supply constraints.</li> <li>- In case of high temperatures observed, the SCO &amp; HA are promptly informed who is stationed in the Flu Clinic set up by the main gate.</li> </ul>
3	Foster hand washing with soaps & sanitizing hands & disinfecting work places, etc.	Chief (P&A), PHPA-I	In consultation with SCO/HA/Medical Staff of respective Agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hand washing facilities (water &amp; soap) set up at main office complex/Parking.</li> <li>- 60L of sanitizers procured &amp; placed at all building entry locations. Contractors made to procure for their own workplaces.</li> </ul>
4	Quarantine (During which face mask, travel history and contact tracing shall be implemented & ascertained).	Sr. LO, PHPA-I	In consultation with SCO/HA/Medical Staff of respective Agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 8 rooms in Executive Hostel of PHPA-I</li> <li>- 2 rooms each at Metsina &amp; Lawakha by L&amp;T</li> <li>- 1 room near Powerhouse &amp; 3 rooms at Rurichhu camp by HCC</li> <li>- 2 rooms at Adit-2 &amp; 4 rooms at Basochhu by BHEL.</li> <li>- 1 room at Dema (Adit-2) by Hyosung.</li> </ul>
5	Patient Referrals for isolation/treatment.	SCO, PHC	Dzongkhag ICS	Shall inform JMD and take concurrent actions.

6	Monitoring of Contractor's staff/laborers, employee's family members coming to the Project site after their quarantine periods.	SCO, PHC	SLO of PHPA-I in cooperation with respective Agencies.	Shall follow the same SOP.
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#### 4. Actions Taken as of April 2, 2020

- ✓ All visitors and employees entering the main project office in Bjimthangkha are screened for fever using a thermal scanner;
- ✓ Hand washing stations set up at the office complexes, parking lot, etc.;
- ✓ Hand sanitizers have been distributed to all employees on 13.03.2020 as received from the Dzongkhag and replenished with purchase from MSPCL, Thimphu and sanitizers are placed at all the entrances of the offices/work places, meeting halls, Canteens, Guesthouses etc.;
- ✓ Flu Clinic has been set up at the entrance gate of the Project Office in Bjimthangkha where about 1,300 people reside and another 200 employees and visitors enter and exit the colony each day;
- ✓ Lower level employees have been asked to stay and work from home and attend offices on alternate days to ensure social distancing at the work place in keeping with RGoB's directives issued on 27.03.2020;
- ✓ Cafeteria with congested space has been closed and the one with larger dining space has been kept operational in the Club House;
- ✓ Project meetings involving high attendance has been postponed including project recruitments;
- ✓ Employee transportation through Busses has been made to follow recent RSTA guideline;
- ✓ A Project Level Group (PLG) has been constituted in the Project on 15.03.2020 with the Project Management and Heads of Project Contractors as focal officials.
- ✓ A Task Force (TF) has been constituted at the level of Chiefs, Sr. Labour Officer and Safety Officers of the Contractors on 16.03.2020. This team carries out rigorous monitoring and surveillance activities with the support of Project's Security personnel and De-Suups of PHPA-I. The list of members in PLG & TF is as per *Annexure*.
- ✓ Regular coordination in place among Project employees and Contractors for proper communication and awareness about the pandemic.
- ✓ Contractors of PHPA-I have stocked up essential food items to last for 2 months and have been advised to keep their food supply chain operational.
- ✓ Contractors have advised their workmen on the Dos & Don'ts and make available hand washing soap & sanitizers along with face masks.

#### 5. Ensuring smooth Project Progress

In order to minimize the impact of the situation to the Project activities, the Contractors (L&T and HCC) have been advised by the respective Engineer In-Charges (EICs) to ensure continuous availability of construction materials such as POL, cement & steel with labour to be locally arranged as per the recent directives of the Government to meet the labour shortfalls as a result of the restriction on import of labour, so that the momentum in construction works are maintained and progresses are not hampered during this period. Since the cement and steel are sourced from within the country, the Contractors have placed advance orders to avoid supply disruptions, though they maintain stockpiles to last for 15 days. Regular communication and coordination are being done with the parent Ministry where constant guidance is received from Office of the Hon'ble Chairman and Tengye Lyonpo on regular basis.

To this extent, the Contractors have also developed their own action plans to prevail over this ongoing contingency.

## 6. Effectiveness of this SOP

The SOP has been effective since March 16, 2020 and the Task Force Members have been taking active part in the implementation of this plan of action as per the above responsibility matrix and keeps the PLG duly informed of the situations at the Project sites. Further intimation can be made to the Dzongkhag Incident Command System (ICS) depending on the gravity of the situation. This SOP has been shared with the Dzongkhag Administration and Task Force and will remain operational until further orders from MoEA/Dzongkhag ICS.

## 7. Follow-up/Monitoring, Review & Reporting

The PLG and TF continues to deliberate and follow-up on the implementation of various preventive measures at the respective work places and reports on the status and effectiveness of the measures so proposed through use of reporting frameworks. The TF ensure implementation of temperature screening, mandatory hand washing and submits reports and recommendations on improvements to the PLG through WhatsApp messages/images and in writing as deemed necessary.

Mass communication has been made the main mode of advocacy which has become daily routine to communicate by the Lead Coordinators. The project medical specialist assists in formulation and dissemination of relevant messages to the TF who conveys the same to the Safety Officers and who in turn conveys and ensures implementation on the ground to handle the situations in a professional manner. The TF reviews the Contractor's PoA and suggest measures to make them effective through proper feedbacks and which are promptly implemented by the Contractors, to the extent possible.

Review meetings are being taken by JMD with the TF members on regular basis.

## 8. Emergency Contacts:

a)	COVID-19 National Helpline	2121
b)	Dzongkhag COVID-19 Toll free Hot Line Nos.	1196 / 1197
c)	Dzongkhag Disaster Mgt. Officer (Mr. Pasang Dorji), Wangdue Incident Control System	1725 7770
d)	Primary Health Center, Bjimthangkha, Gase Tsho Gom	1766 0702 / 1783 7854
e)	Medical Specialist, PHPA-I, Jatshokha Hospital	1760 4047
f)	Managing Director, PHPA-I	1710 1161
g)	Joint Managing Director, PHPA-I	1777 5454
h)	For COVID-19 related information in Bhutan, please visit:	<a href="http://www.health.gov.bt">www.health.gov.bt</a>

**“PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE”**

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**List of Project Level Group (PLG) members**

Sl. #	Name	Designation	Agency	Contact No.
1	Mr. N.C. Bansal	MD	PHPA-I	17101161
2	Mr. Karma Tshewang	Joint MD	-do-	17775454
3	Mr. P.K. Mallick	Director (Finance)	-do-	17112104
4	Mr. R.P. Sharma	Director (Technical)	-do-	77120051
5	Dr. Tashi Wangdi	Medical Specialist	-do-	17604047
6	Mr. Arvind Kumar	Chief Project Director	Consultant (WAPCOS)	77775361
7	Mr. N.K. Singh	Project Director, L&T	Dam (Civil) Contractor	77109493
8	Mr. Sajith Kumar	Project Manager , HCC	Powerhouse (Civil) Contractor	77102255
9	Mr. Token Ori	Construction Manager, BHEL	E&M Contractor	77107406

**List of Task Force members**

Sl. #	Name	Designation	Agency	Contact No.
1	Mr. Wangchuk Hexzo	Chief Security Officer	PHPA-I	17116039
2	Mr. J.S. Bajwa	Chief Engineer (Dam)	-do-	17615998
3	Mr. Arvind Sthapak	Chief Research Officer	-do-	16917284
4	Mr. Tandin Wangdi	Chief (P&A)	-do-	17646767
5	Mr. Cheni Dorji	SE (Generation)	-do-	17163929
6	Mr. Kuenga Gyeltshen	SE (Power House)	-do-	17605380
7	Mr. Pemba Dukpa	SE (Infrastructure)	-do-	17832188
8	Mr. G.K. Chhophel	Chief Env't. Officer	-do-	17127218
9	Ms. Pema Wangmo	Senior Personnel Officer	-do-	17611272
10	Mr. Ajay Awasthi	SE (Procurement)	-do-	17370108
11	Mr. Aridhan Maity	Safety Officer	L&T	77103122
12	Mr. Ved Prakash	Safety Officer	HCC	77106531
13	Mr. Palash Bishwas	Safety Officer	BHEL	77107328
14	Mr. Nima Wangdi	Sr. Clinical Officer	PHC	17660702