



COVID-19 cases in the SAARC Member States

Country	Total Cases	Total Deaths
Afghanistan	40	1
Bangladesh	27	2
Bhutan	2	0
India*	492	9
Maldives	13	0
Nepal	1	0
Pakistan	784	5
Sri Lanka#	97	0
Total	1456	17

Source:

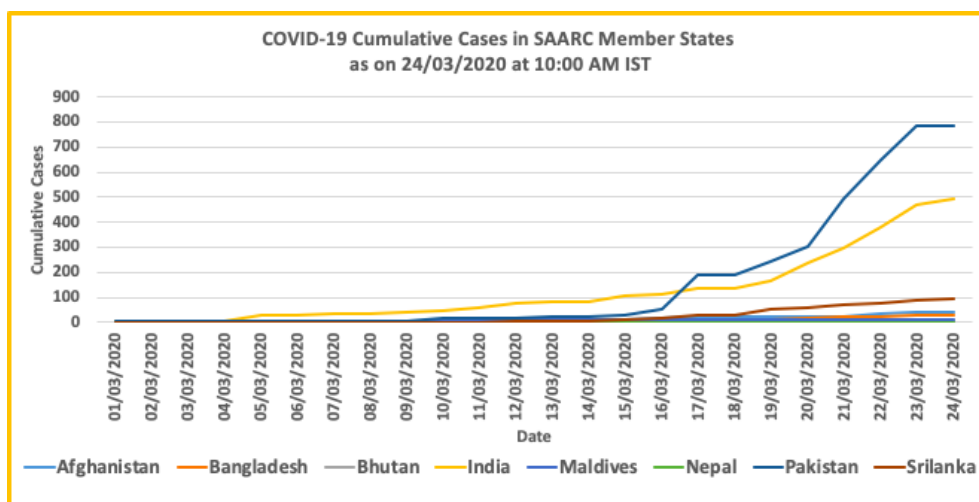
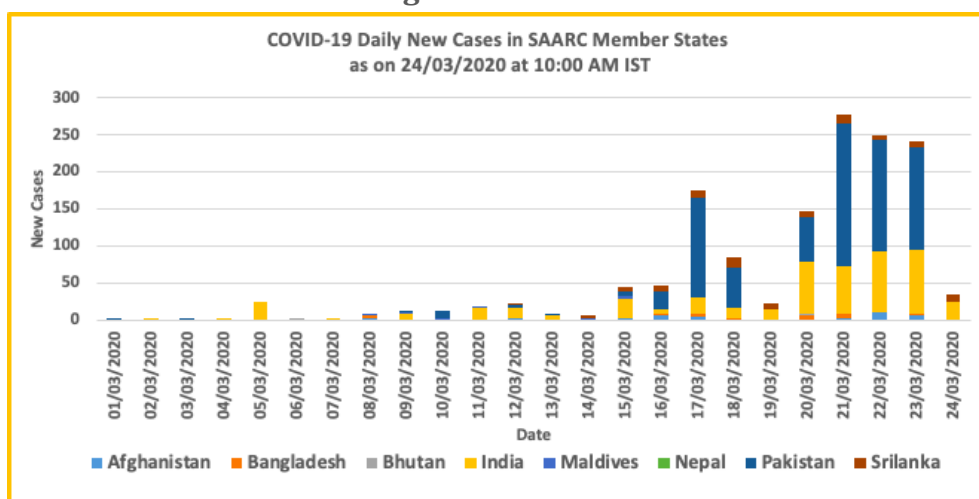
WHO Coronavirus Situation Dashboard (Data as reported on 18:00 CET 23rd March 2020),

*Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India (as on 24.03.2020 at 08:45 AM),

#Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (as on 07:34 AM, 24th March 2020)

- As of 23rd March 2020, the number of COVID-19 cases surpassed 300,000 globally across 190 countries. About 14,652 lives have been lost. (Source: WHO)
- SAARC region comprises of over 21% of the world's population which remains vulnerable towards COVID-19. The Member States have reported 1,456 cases and a total of 17 deaths in the region.
- Based on the day wise data of COVID-19 cases in the SAARC Member States, time-series graphs below shows the trend of daily cases and cumulative figures:

Regional Situation





- The COVID-19 Emergency Fund has been operationalized and the requirements of urgent medical supplies and equipment in individual countries in the region are being met through this Fund. *(Source: mea.gov.in)*
- Government of India responded to the request from the Royal Government of Bhutan for provision of medical supplies in the wake of the outbreak of COVID-19. The first consignment of medical supplies was handed over by the Ambassador of India to Hon'ble Minister of Health of Bhutan on 23 March 2020. The consignment of medical supplies has been arranged through the SAARC COVID-19 Emergency Fund facility announced by the Prime Minister of India at the SAARC Leaders' Video Conference. *(Source: indembthimphu.gov.in)*
- A Video Conference of senior health professionals of SAARC countries is also proposed to be held on 26 March 2020 to exchange experiences of combating the spread of COVID-19 thus far, including on specific protocols dealing with screening at entry points, contact tracing, quarantine and isolation facilities etc. *(Source: mea.gov.in)*