Major interventions to control COVID-19 from 19 Feb till to date (15 March 2020)

**Governance**
- National Commitment at highest level H.E. Supreme Leader who ordered engagement of Army to assist Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MoH&ME) in prevention and control of COVID-19 as national campaign to combat COVID-19
- Formation of Provincial High Level committees chaired by the Governor and Chancellor of University of Medical Sciences & Health Services as secretariat
- Task distribution between Governmental sectors and improving Intersectoral collaboration to control COVID-19
- Allocation of funds to MoH&ME and handing over majority of authorities form President to the Minister of Health

**Technical committees**
- Formation of Technical/ scientific committee with membership of high quality infectious disease specialist, epidemiologists, pharmacist, Internal medicine specialist etc
- Formation of epidemiological committee under leadership of Deputy for Education in the MoH&ME to lead epidemiological studies across the country for example: developed 4 scenarios about extension of disease under different conditions/ level of interventions; published a daily Sitrep is prepared in Farsi and English
- International relation scientific committees to collect and share the researches and studies related to COVID-19 across the world with Iranian scientific organizations/ academia
Awareness building

- Developed and shared relevant guidelines and health education packages/materials to the provinces for printing and distribution (use of electronic clips/materials were encouraged)
- Using the WHO standards and guidelines as a basis for community awareness building
- Community awareness building through national and local media, using potentials of Municipalities, health volunteers, NGOs, etc
- Proper use of social media as a vehicle for community awareness building
- Launching special hot line for (COVID-19)

Preventive and Curative affairs

- Active case finding by nearly 5000 PHC centers and 17000 health houses at rural and urban areas through calling all households under coverage of each health facilities within their catchment areas
- Establishment of an online application made available to ALL people for self screening through: www.salamat.gov.ir
- Around 1200 PHC centers at Urban settings are functional 16 Hours/day to reduce number of clients who approaching directly to the hospitals
- Currently 18000 health houses at rural areas (with 33000 community health workers), 5200 PHC facilities at rural and urban areas (with above 22000 public health experts) are fully engaged in prevention and control of COVID-19 at PHC level
- Setting a clear instructions and screening mechanism/tools at all boarders to control COVID-19 including Quarantine facilities
- Establishing a system to follow up and screen close contacts of: suspected, positive or patients expired due to COVID-19 by disease control and environmental health experts across the country
- Identifying ONE- or MORE hospital/s with sufficient beds (based on the provincial/district population) for hospitalization of the patients in need
- Establishing field hospitals for temporary hospitalization of settled patients
- Establishing more than 50 LAB that will be expanded to 70 soon across the country
- Initiate production of LAB kits
- Developing national treatment protocols for ambulatory and hospitalized cases and trying to fulfill needs while suffering from an imposed sanction!
- Coordinating with EMS for transportation of the suspected cases safely, without risking transmission of infection to ambulance or other health care personnel.
- Defining screening outpatient clinics in all universities (private and public) in order to reduce unnecessary referral to hospitals
**Environmental health procedures**
- Stopping Shisha distribution in all coffee shops
- Supervising and monitoring visits by the Environmental health experts to all food shops and food handlers
- Disinfecting all public areas including mosque, parks, transportation facilities, schools etc
- Developing guidelines for different settings like taxi drivers, swimming pools, barbershops, supermarkets etc
- Educating owners of the factories about intervention/ measures need to apply for protecting health of their own labour and implementing environmental health standards at work places

**Advocacy and Partnership**
- Community engagement and ownership
- Coordination with WHO, China, UNICEF, etc to get LAB kits and other required self protection equipment and other hospital equipments
- Visit of a WHO team from 1st to 11th March to assess Iran’s response and preparedness to control COVID-19
- Encourage local producers for making personal protection materials such as glasses, masks, gowns, disinfectant gel etc
- Closure of schools, universities at the national and provincial level
- High quality coordination with Municipalities across the country
- Coordination with MoFA and all Embassies in Tehran to brief them about extent of COVID-19 and actions being taken by Iranian Government to control it
- Coordination with neighbouring countries on establishing rules for closure of borders and issuing health certificate for foreigners who were in Iran after going through a screening test before their departure
- Close coordination with UNICEF and MSF on establishment of field hospitals