



Ministry of Health and Family Welfare



## Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya interacts with doctors and representatives of IMA

Urges them to join the fight against COVID19 by providing accurate Information to Allay Fears and Prevent an Infodemic

“It is important to be on the alert and follow COVID Appropriate Behaviour, and refrain from spreading unverified information”

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“While it is important to be on the alert and follow COVID Appropriate Behaviour including wearing of masks, it is equally important to prevent an infodemic and share only authentic and verified information on COVID19. Union Ministry of Health has been sharing information on various aspects of COVID prevention and management. I urge everyone to access and share only verified information and encourage others to also do so”. This was stated by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare today as he virtually interacted with about 100 doctors from across the country and members of Indian Medical Association (IMA).

आज देशभर के करीब 100 public health experts और clinicians से कोविड-19 प्रबंधन के संदर्भ में बातचीत की।

Today, interacted with about 100 public health experts and clinicians from across the country regarding Covid-19 management. [pic.twitter.com/WeB2SPnDW1](https://pic.twitter.com/WeB2SPnDW1)

— Dr Mansukh Mandaviya (@mansukhmandviya) December 26, 2022





Dr Mandaviya urged the doctors and members of IMA to continue to spread authentic information about COVID19. “You have been our ambassadors during the country’s fight against COVID19. I value your contribution and salute the selfless dedication and service of the healthcare professionals. I urge you to be our partners and ambassadors to prevent an infodemic by educating the public on various aspects of the COVID19 disease and its prevention and management aspects”. He expressed confidence that doctors would continue to work dedicatedly in this fight, as they have been doing till now.



Dr. Mandaviya urged participants to refrain from making speculations and only share accurate information with the public. He said that “our citizens look up to our COVID warriors for advice and due to recent increase in COVID-19 cases globally, it becomes the responsibility of our experts to share correct information so that rumors, misconceptions and in turn, fears can be prevented.” He emphasized on mitigating even the slightest sense of panic in the citizens by making them aware about current status of COVID19 data, the vaccination program and government efforts. He cautioned against complacency. He urged on adherence to ‘Test-Track-Treat-Vaccinate & Adherence to COVID Appropriate Behaviour’ and uptake of precaution doses for the vulnerable groups. “Only this way we will be able to preserve the gains made so far through continued collective efforts”, he stressed.



Informing about the mock drill planned tomorrow, Dr. Mandaviya emphasized that “based on our previous experience of managing this pandemic, we are undertaking several exercises, one such being the mock drill that will happen across the country tomorrow. Such exercises would help our operational readiness, help in filling gaps if any and will consequently strengthen our public health response.”

Doctors and experts who have remained at the forefront in our fight against COVID-19 since its occurrence, appreciated the timely meetings being chaired by Hon. Prime Minister and Union Health Minister and agreed to contribute in the collective fight against COVID19. Taking the message of Hon’ble Prime Minister forward, Dr. Mandaviya has chaired multiple meetings in last few days aiming at providing a platform for brainstorming of suggestions and ideas from all stakeholders.

Shri Lav Agarwal, AS, Dr. Atul Goel, DGHS, IMA members, and eminent doctors and experts were present in the meeting.

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**MV**

**HFV/HFM-IMA interaction/26<sup>th</sup> December 2022/1**

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