HIGHLIGHTS

- Cabinet approves “India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Package: Phase II” at a cost of Rs 23,123 crore (Link)
- Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Kingdom of Denmark on cooperation in the field of health and medicine (Link)
- Union Home Secretary reviews steps taken by State Governments for curbing the spread of COVID-19 in hill stations and tourist locations (Link)
- Breastfeeding mothers should get themselves vaccinated against COVID-19 without any hesitation, asserts Head of Division of Epidemiology and Communicable Diseases, ICMR (Link)
- PM interacts with Chief Ministers of the North-Eastern states on COVID-19 situation (Link)
- Union Health Minister inaugurates 2 PSA Oxygen Plants at Sir Takhtasinhji hospital, Bhavnagar, Gujarat (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- India currently reports second highest number of COVID-19 cases and third highest number of deaths in the world. The 7DMA of daily cases in India accounts for 9% of new cases reported in the world.

WHO Situation Update

- India
  - 30,907,282 Confirmed Cases
  - 410,784 Total Deaths
- South East Asia Region
  - 36,039,776 Confirmed Cases
  - 512,592 Total Deaths
- World
  - 187,086,096 Confirmed Cases
  - 4,042,921 Deaths

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

- In the past week (7-13 July), as compared to previous week (1-6 July), all states/UTs have shown a decrease in cases except Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Sikkim and Kerala.
• In Haryana, “Khelo India Youth Games” have been postponed to February 2022 in light of the possible third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic

• In Puducherry, two villages, namely Pudukuppam & Ilayankudi, have been declared 100% vaccinated for 45+ and similar efforts are being undertaken in other rural areas of the state

• In Punjab, Chief Minister has asked concerned departments to expedite Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) to identify cases of new COVID-19 variants

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• COVID-19 subcommittee of the WHO Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety (GACVS) issued a statement reviewing initial reports of mild myocarditis following COVID-19 mRNA vaccines, details here

• WHO and FIND (Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics) co-developed a self-learning online course ‘SARS-CoV-2 antigen rapid diagnostic testing’ which aims to provide Ag-RDT users with a deeper understanding of the theoretical and practical components of SARS-CoV-2 Ag-RDT testing, details here

• United Nations issued a multi-agency report estimates that around a tenth of the global population—up to 811 million people—were undernourished last year. This spike in world hunger has largely been attributed to COVID-19 pandemic, details here

• WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia Regional Director’s opening remarks at the Sixteenth Annual Meeting of Asia-Pacific Health Accounts Experts reaffirm commitment to advocate for sustained and scaled up investments in health to build a health and economic recovery from COVID-19 that is more resilient, equitable and sustainable, details here

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination
• WCO has been monitoring the trends using inhouse developed indicators and thresholds and sharing the information with states/UTs.
• WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry.
• WHO field offices participated in meetings on current response, third wave preparations, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, and Tamil Nadu.

COVID-19 vaccination
• WCO has been supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.
• WHO field offices are supporting Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Kerala, and Punjab in orientating them to guidelines on COVID-19 vaccination for pregnant women; and its roll-out.

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance
• WHO field offices supporting house to house survey for ILI/SARI in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh.

Information and Planning
• Supporting implementation of sero-survey in Karnataka.

IPC
• Continuing to support capacity building of healthcare workers regarding IPC in Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh
**Essential Services**

- WHO field teams are providing technical support to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana
- Supporting implementation of IHIP in Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, and Tamil Nadu
- Supporting launch of PCV vaccine in Delhi, Ladakh, and Punjab

As of 13 July, India has tested more than 423 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.3%.

**Testing - National Level**

India continued to drive COVID-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details [here](#).

Cumulative Coverage Report of COVID-19 vaccination (as on 13 July 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>India</th>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30,66,12,781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(25,58,845 in last 24 Hours)</td>
<td>15,07,017 in last 24 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS THIS WEEK**

- Modelling the health impacts of disruptions to essential health services during COVID-19 [LINK]
- Diagnostics, therapeutics, vaccine readiness, and other health products for COVID-19 [LINK]
- Infection prevention and control during health care when coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is suspected or confirmed [LINK]

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline [here](#).

WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Centre rushes teams to Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Manipur, Odisha, and Tripura, for COVID-19 control and containment measures (Link)
- MoHFW announces that pregnant women are now eligible for COVID-19 vaccination (Link)
- Prime Minister addresses CoWIN Global Conclave as India offers CoWIN platform as a digital public good to the world to combat COVID-19 (Link)
- MoHFW organizes capacity building workshop for media/health correspondents of North Eastern and Southern states on COVID-19 (Link)
- Vice President calls for fast-tracking of genome sequencing of new COVID-19 variants to speed up vaccine and drug development (Link)
- Government readies two more central drug laboratories at Pune and Hyderabad for COVID-19 vaccine testing (Link)
- Additional 1,14,000 vials of Liposomal Amphotericin-B allocated to all States/UTs & Central Institutions (Link)

**INDIA SITUATION**

In India, highest number of cases in a day were 4,14,188; reported on 7 May 2021 and since then there is a continuous decline in daily cases. Currently, India reports 11% of new COVID cases reported globally (7DMA), and 32 daily cases per million population.

**COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES**

- In the past week (30 June – 6 July), as compared to previous week (23 – 29 June), all states/UTs have shown a decrease in cases except Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Mizoram, Tripura, Manipur and Kerala.
• In Karnataka, orders have been issued to ensure that those traveling to the state from Kerala and Maharashtra either have a Negative RTPCR report or have been vaccinated at least once.
• In Maharashtra, district collectors have been asked to prepare a district level oxygen management plan; the plan should take into account the highest number of cases in each district during the second wave and ensure that three times the amount of oxygen is presently available.
• In Telangana, education department has issued orders instructing all private schools to collect tuition fees on a monthly basis and refrain from increasing fees during the academic year 21-22.

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• WHO, UNICEF, Save the Children and the MHPSS Collaborative jointly developed new training resources to help young people support one another during emergencies, details here
• COVAX facility urges all regional, national and local government authorities to recognize as fully vaccinated all people who have received COVID-19 vaccines that have been deemed safe and effective by WHO, details here
• WHO has announced multiple commitments to drive change for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls with special focus on COVID-19-exacerbated gender inequalities, details here
• WHO global conference on communicating science during health emergencies sparks enormous public interest. The conference intended to identify the challenges encountered during the pandemic and find solutions to make science accessible and relevant to all., details here
• WHO recommends life-saving interleukin-6 receptor blockers for COVID-19 and urges producers to join efforts to rapidly increase access. Further, WHO has launched an expression of interest for prequalification of manufacturers of interleukin-6 receptor blockers, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination
• WCO has been monitoring Covid19 epidemiological trends and sharing the information with States/UTs.
• WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry.
• WHO staff contributed to meetings on current response, third wave preparations, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, and Tamil Nadu.

COVID-19 vaccination
• WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance
• Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Uttar Pradesh (UP); which also include supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis.
• WHO State and District Units supporting house to house survey for ILI/SARI in Haryana Punjab, and UP.

Information and Planning
• Supported implementation of sero-survey in Gujarat, Karnataka, and Maharashtra.

Essential Services
• Technical support to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Gujarat.
• Strengthening and streamlining AEPI surveillance in Karnataka, Puducherry, Telangana, and Maharashtra.
July 7, 2021

- Supporting fever and rash surveillance in Maharashtra
- Implementation of IHIP in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu.
- Supporting launch of PCV vaccine in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu

As of 6 July, India has tested more than 411 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.4%.

**Testing - National Level**

*Exclusive of data reconciled by states on 2nd June, 2021 (Dashboard cumulative figure varies from the cumulative figure on ICMR website)*

India continued to drive COVID-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details [here](#).

Cumulative Coverage Report of COVID-19 vaccination (as on 7 July 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>India</th>
<th>1st Dose</th>
<th>2nd Dose</th>
<th>Total Doses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29,37,06,832</td>
<td>6,76,16,716</td>
<td>36,13,23,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(24,10,107 in last 24 Hours)</td>
<td>11,95,891 in last 24 hours</td>
<td>36,05,998 in last 24 Hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS THIS WEEK**

- Ethical Framework for WHO’s work in the ACT-Accelerator (COVID-19 tools for decision making) [LINK]
- Protocol template to be used as template for observational study protocols: cohort event monitoring (CEM) for safety signal detection after vaccination with COVID-19 vaccines [LINK]
- Policy considerations for implementing a risk-based approach to international travel in the context of COVID-19, 2 July 2021 [LINK], Interim guidance [LINK]
- Considerations for strengthening legal frameworks for digital contact tracing and quarantine tools for COVID-19 [LINK]
- Therapeutics and COVID-19: living guideline [LINK]
- Operational Guidance for COVID-19 Vaccination of Pregnant Women (MoHFW) [LINK]

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline [here](#).

WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- MoHFW releases FAQs regarding Delta and Delta Plus Variants (Link)
- Union Minister of Health chairs 29th meeting of Group of Ministers (GOM) on COVID-19 (Link)
- Prime Minister holds a high level meeting to review progress of vaccination (Link)
- Minister of State for Education launches Rapid Antigen Test Kit for COVID-19 developed by IIT Delhi (Link)
- MoHFW organizes capacity building workshop for media professionals/health correspondents of 12 States/UTs on COVID-19 (Link)
- Additional 2,12,540 vials of Liposomal Amphotericin B allocated to all States/UTs & Central government institutions (Link)
- Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers along with Minister of State for Home Affairs review the production of vaccines in Hyderabad (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- Currently, India reports 13% of new COVID cases reported globally and has recorded the second highest daily number of cases with 48,434 daily cases (7DMA) after Brazil 70,381 daily cases (7DMA).

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

- In the past week (23-29 June), as compared to previous week (16-22 June), all states/UTs have shown a decrease in COVID cases except Delhi, Arunachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Nagaland.
Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)
Situation Update Report – 74

June 30, 2021

- In **Kerala**, bed strength and other support systems are being strengthened in the districts
- In **Odisha**, 50 beds have been earmarked for the treatment of kids at MKCG Medical College & Hospital in Berhampur
- In **Uttar Pradesh**, fourth phase special vaccination drive for street vendors & daily wagers has been initiated

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO has released new guidance which recognize how people can actively take decisions for their own health and the health of their loved ones, details [here](#)
- Directors General of WHO, WIPO and the WTO agree on intensified cooperation in support of access to medical technologies worldwide to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic, details [here](#)
- WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, in collaboration with the UN System Staff College, has launched a leadership programme on epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response, details [here](#)
- WHO and ECDC launch indicator framework to evaluate public health effectiveness of digital proximity tracing solutions, details [here](#)
- WHO, the UN Special Programme (Human Reproduction Programme) and the UN University International Institute for Global Health in partnership with the British Medical Journal have released a special series on “Women’s Health and Gender Inequalities” which also includes inequities posed by COVID-19, details [here](#).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

**Coordination**
- WCO is monitoring the trends using our inhouse developed indicators and thresholds and sharing the information with states/UTs.
- WHO field representatives participated in meetings on current response, third wave preparations, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Arunachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Manipur, Nagaland Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh

**COVID-19 vaccination**
- WCO continues to support monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and providing surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring
- Supporting COVID-19 vaccine sensitization training in **Tamil Nadu** in collaboration with UNICEF
- Conducted Knowledge, Attitude, and Behavior (KAB) study on COVID-19 vaccination in rural areas of **Uttar Pradesh**; the outcome of the study has been shared with State officers

**Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance**
- Supporting house to house survey for ILI/SARI in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh
- Supporting data analysis of the Assam Community Surveillance Program (Phase III); more than 12,000 cases have been identified from the surveillance program

**Information and Planning**
- Assisting death audit and analysis in Karnataka
- Supplementing the implementation of sero-survey in Maharashtra and Telangana

**IPC**
- Continue to support capacity building of healthcare workers regarding IPC in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, and Punjab
Essential Services

- Strengthening VPD surveillance and immunization in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Gujarat
- Strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance in Karnataka, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Tripura
- Smooth implementation of polio SNID in Gujarat, Haryana, and Maharashtra with
- Assisting polio sewage sampling in Punjab
- Support to the launch of PCV vaccine in Odisha

As of 29 June 2021, India has so far tested more than 398 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.75%.

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details here.

Cumulative Coverage Report of Covid-19 vaccination (as on 30 June 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>India</th>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st Dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>27,40,13,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27,42,630 in last 24 Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS THIS WEEK

- Recommendations for national SARS-CoV-2 testing strategies and diagnostic capacities [LINK]
- Considerations for quarantine of contacts of COVID-19 cases [LINK]
- WHO country presence in small island developing states (SIDS) [LINK]
- Ethics and governance of artificial intelligence for health [LINK]
- List of Rapid Antigen Test Kits for COVID-19, validated by ICMR [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline here.
WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime Minister launches ‘Customized Crash Course Programme for COVID-19 Frontline Workers’ (Link)
- Decision to increase gap between COVISHIELD doses taken on scientific evidence in a transparent manner, asserts chairman of National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI) (Link)
- Ministry of Tourism invites feedback/suggestions on the draft “National Strategy and Roadmap for Medical and Wellness Tourism” (Link)
- Member, Health, NITI Aayog asserts that Delta Plus variant has not yet been classified as Variant of Concern (Link)
- Union Minister of Minority Affairs launches “JaanHaiToJahaanHai” campaign to create awareness on COVID-19 vaccination in the country (Link)
- Union Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions launched “Vaccines for All-Free for All” program in Katra-Vaishno Devi, J&K (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- In India, highest number of cases in a day were 4,14,188; reported on 7th May 2021. Since then there is continuous decline in daily cases. India accounts for 16% of daily cases reported globally with 21,097 cases per million.

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

- In the past week (16-22 June), as compared to previous week (9-15 June), all states/UTs have shown a decrease in cases except Mizoram, D & N Haveli, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Meghalaya.
In **Punjab**, the government has included more categories in “priority group for vaccination” including shopkeepers and their staff, gym owners and trainers, staff working in the hospitality industry, etc.

In **Delhi**, Unlock-4 was announced on 21 June which allows opening of parks, and allows restaurants to function at 50% of their capacity.

In **Jammu and Kashmir**, Amarnath yatra has been canceled in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic.

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**WHO GLOBAL UPDATE**

- WHO and its COVAX partners are working with a South African consortium comprising Biovac, Afrigen Biologics and Vaccines, a network of universities and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to establish its first COVID mRNA vaccine technology transfer hub, details [here](#).
- Breakthrough WHO initiative launched in Europe to engage and empower civil society organizations in health emergency responses, details [here](#).
- WHO called upon countries in WHO South-East Asia Region to scale up and rigorously implement public health and social measures, along with efforts to accelerate vaccination for COVID-19, to prevent another surge, as more countries confirmed prevalence of highly transmissible variants of concerns, details [here](#).
- WHO-PAHO Director asks G7 nations to prioritize Latin America and the Caribbean for 1 billion vaccine donations, details [here](#).

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**WHO COUNTRY UPDATE**

**Coordination**

- WHO State Units participated in meetings on current response, third wave preparations, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.
- WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry.
- Participated in meetings on current response, third wave preparations, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Telangana.

**COVID-19 vaccination**

- High level oversight during vaccination is provided by WHO teams at district and state levels.
- WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.

**Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance**

- Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Uttar Pradesh; and supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis.

**Information and Planning**

- Facilitating laboratory strengthening activities in Andhra Pradesh to initiate DPT surveillance.
- Supported training of over 250 youth master trainers across 10 districts of Madhya Pradesh regarding COVID appropriate behaviour and COVID-19 vaccinations; as part of the ‘Yuva Shakti- Corona Se Mukti Abhiyan’, a joint initiative by health and education departments.
- Conducted training workshop in Andhra Pradesh for paediatricians working in Paediatric Care Units (PICU), Sick New-born Care Units (SNCU), mini-SNCUs on paediatric management of COVID-19 in collaboration with UNICEF.
• Supporting Tamil Nadu with development of guidelines on management of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) in collaboration with UNICEF.

**Essential Services**

• Providing technical support to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana.
• Supporting Karnataka, Puducherry, and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance.
• Supporting Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, and Rajasthan with smooth implementation of polio SNID.
• Supporting Puducherry with sensitization efforts for surveillance of AFP/ MR/ DPT

As of 22 June 2021, India tested more than 386 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 3.25%.

**Testing - National Level**

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details [here](#).

Cumulative Coverage Report of Covid-19 vaccination (as on 22 June 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>India</th>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st Dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23,66,81,488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>78,37,141 in last 24 Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS THIS WEEK**

• Refugees and migrants in times of COVID-19: mapping trends, migration policies and practices [LINK]
• Hypertension and COVID-19- Scientific brief [LINK]
• Making every school a health-promoting school- Guidance [LINK], -Global Standard & Indicators [LINK]
• WHO guideline on school health services [LINK]
• Guidelines on Operationalization of COVID Care Services for Children & Adolescents [LINK]
• Guidelines for Management of COVID-19 in Children [LINK]
• Toolkit for Youth Campaign Appropriate Behaviour, Vaccination drive & Psychosocial well-being [LINK]

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline [here](#).
WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- 500-bed COVID hospital by DRDO operationalized in Srinagar (Link)
- CSIR and Laxai Life Sciences Pvt. Ltd. Hyderabad given regulatory approval to undertake clinical trial to assess efficacy of Colchicine in improvement of clinical outcomes during treatment of COVID-19 (Link)
- Indigenously designed and manufactured high purity oxygen concentrator being supplied to Indian hospitals (Link)
- Member, Health, NITI Aayog asserts that there is no need for immediate change in COVISHIELD dosage interval (Link)
- Press Information Bureau holds webinar to engage with public regarding post-COVID symptoms, and recovery from COVID-19 (Link)
- MoHFW emphasizes the role of Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genetics Consortium (INSACOG) in detection of Variants of Concerns (VOCs) (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- In India highest number of cases in a day were 4,14,188 reported on 7 May 2021; since then there is continuous decline in daily cases.

WHO Situation Update

India
2,95,70,881 Confirmed Cases
3,77,031 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region
33,666,359 Confirmed Cases
461,830 Total Deaths

World
175,987,176 Confirmed Cases
3,811,561 Deaths

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

- In the past week (9-15 June), as compared to previous week (2-8 June), all states/UTs have shown a decrease in cases except Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Mizoram.
• In Kerala, plans have been made to upgrade infrastructure of medical colleges, district hospitals, and block/taluka hospitals to facilitate effective pediatric case management
• In Tamil Nadu, task force committee has been constituted for supporting surge capacity in case of a third wave
• In Himachal Pradesh, directives have been issued to administer second dose of Covishield between 28-84 days of first dose to facilitate smooth foreign travel for the purpose of education, employment, sports events, etc.
• In Punjab, the Chief Minister has asserted that a group of specialist pediatrics will develop treatment protocol for the possible third wave of COVID-19

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities and WHO jointly issued statement for healthcare professionals regarding how COVID-19 vaccines are regulated for safety and effectiveness, details here
• Global leaders have pledged to share COVID-19 vaccine doses internationally, in support of global equitable access and to help end the acute phase of the pandemic. It will be a great boost to COVAX facility, details here
• The ACT Accelerator partnership welcomes commitment of 870 million vaccine doses and calls for more investment in all tools to end the pandemic, details here
• WHO identifies young people as a priority target audience with specific concerns, experiences and behaviours regarding COVID-19, details here
• WHO issued updated recommendations for use of Pfizer–BioNTech, Moderna and Janssen vaccines against COVID-19, details here

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination
• WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry
• WHO field staff participated in meetings on response, preparation for addressing any future surge, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, and UP
• Odisha has set up Auxiliary Health Facility with WHO provided tents in Balasore district. The facility is functional and is helping in reducing pressure on district hospital.

COVID-19 vaccination
• High level oversight during vaccination is provided by WHO teams at district and state levels
• WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance
• WHO Country office and field offices are providing supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis

Information and Planning
• Supporting facilitation of sensitization meetings of doctors and local practitioners of North East district in Delhi regarding COVID response
• Supporting Kerala with development of guidelines for vaccinating bed-ridden and palliative patients at their place of stay
• Facilitating lab strengthening activities in Andhra Pradesh to initiate DPT surveillance
• Supporting implementation of serosurvey in Maharashtra
• Supporting Rajasthan with death audit and analysis
IPCs
- Supporting training of health workers in public and private hospitals in Delhi on IPC protocol
- Supporting capacity building of Medical officers and ANMs on IPC in Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Punjab, and Rajasthan

Essential Services
- Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and Telangana
- Supporting Chhattisgarh and Puducherry with sensitization efforts for surveillance of AFP/ MR/ DPT
- Supporting Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, and Punjab with fever and rash surveillance

As of 15 June 2021, India has tested more than 373 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 4.38%.

Testing - National Level

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details [here](#).

Cumulative Coverage Report of Covid-19 vaccination (as on 16 June 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>India</th>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21,26,81,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24,02,842 in last 24 Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS THIS WEEK

- Young people and COVID-19: Behavioural considerations for promoting safe behaviours [LINK]
- COVID-19 Vaccine Introduction and deployment Costing tool (CVIC tool)- Version 2.2 [LINK]
- Technical specifications for selection of essential in vitro diagnostics for SARS-CoV-2 [LINK]
- Considerations for implementing and adjusting public health & social measures for COVID-19 [LINK]
- Guidelines on Operationalization of COVID Care Services for Children & Adolescents [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline here.
WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- MoHFW finalizes advance arrangement with M/s Biological-E Ltd., Hyderabad for 30 crore COVID-19 vaccine doses (Link)
- Xray Setu, a new AI-driven platform launched to facilitate early-COVID interventions over WhatsApp (Link)
- CSIR India and Laxai Life Sciences initiate clinical trials of promising repurposed drug, Niclosamide for treatment of COVID-19 (Link)
- Member, Health, NITI Aayog and Director AIIMS address FAQs regarding COVID-19 (Link)
- Director, AIIMS asserts that there is no data to show children will be seriously infected in subsequent COVID-19 waves (Link)
- Unique Disability Identification Card (UDID) now acceptable as photo ID for registration on Co-WIN 2.0 (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- There is a decline in number of cases since last week though India accounts for 28% of new cases reported in the world.

WHO Situation Update

- India
  - 2,89,96,473 Confirmed Cases
  - 3,51,309 Total Deaths

- South East Asia Region
  - 32,889,638 Confirmed Cases
  - 430,834 Total Deaths

- World
  - 173,331,478 Confirmed Cases
  - 3,735,571 Deaths

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

- In the past week (2-8 June), as compared to previous week (26 May – 1 June), all states/UTs have shown a decrease in cases. Higher decrease reported from Uttarakhand (-65%), Rajasthan (-64%) and Delhi (-60%).

% change in number of confirmed cases, current week vs. previous week
• In Punjab, Chief Minister virtually inaugurated a 50-bed pediatric COVID care ward, in CMC Hospital, Ludhiana in preparation for the third wave of the pandemic
• In Maharashtra, the government has put a cap on cost of treatment for mucormycosis in private hospitals
• In Tamil Nadu, a technical committee to review and monitor the rising incidence of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) has been established

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• 7th meeting of the International Health Regulations (IHR) Emergency Committee regarding COVID-19 advice to keep on updating WHO interim position on guidance and tools related to standardization of paper and digital documentation of COVID-19 travel-related risk reduction measures, details here
• 74th World Health Assembly dominated by discussions on responding to the short- and longer-term consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, and on ensuring that countries, health systems, organizations and societies are better prepared to meet the challenges of future health threats, detail here.
• WHO EMRO tri-regional policy dialogue seeks solutions to challenges facing international mobility of health professionals, details here.
• Council on the Economics of Health for All issues brief on equitable health innovation, details here

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination
• WHO field teams participated in meetings regarding COVID-19 surge, third wave, response and preparation, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and UP
• Around 70 tents for setting up auxiliary health facility has been received by Maharashtra, Assam, Odisha, Jharkhand and Bihar. States are setting up the tents with guidance from WCO.
• WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry

COVID-19 vaccination
• WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring
• Supported training of vaccinators in Chhattisgarh regarding proper filling of vaccine utilization reports to better reconcile vaccine wastage
• Assisting Gujarat with review of COVID-19 vaccination data and field visits to assess gaps in coverage; 5 districts have been visited so far and observations and recommendations have been shared with the state
• Supporting district level workshops in Karnataka on COVID vaccination and AEFI, basis guidelines shared by state on vaccinating those between 18-44 years of age

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance
• Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Uttar Pradesh; field teams also provided supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis
• Supporting house to house survey for ILI/SARI in Haryana, Punjab, and UP

Information and Planning
• Assisting Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu with death audits and analysis
• Supporting Tamil Nadu with development of guidelines on “preventive maintenance & disinfection procedure of medical equipment (including oxygen concentrators) in health facilities & homes”
**IPC**
- Supporting strengthening of ward level taskforce committee on ILI & SARI surveillance in **Karnataka**
- Supporting district level training for capacity building on IPC protocol, COVID appropriate, and COVID surveillance and contact tracing in **Delhi**

**Essential Services**
- Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in **Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana**
- Supporting **Delhi, Karnataka, Puducherry, and Telangana** in strengthening AEFI surveillance
- Supporting **Delhi** with smooth implementation of polio SNID
- Supporting **Chhattisgarh, Goa, and UP** for roll out of Pneumococcal Vaccine (PCV)

As of 8 June 2021, India has tested more than 360 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 5.93%.

**Testing - National Level**

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details [here](#).

Cumulative Coverage Report of Covid-19 vaccination (as on 8 June 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st Dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18,95,95,747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30,38,289 in last 24 Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS THIS WEEK**

- Council brief: The WHO Council on Economics of Health for All [LINK],
- Advisory for Rational use of Remdesivir for COVID-19 Treatment [LINK],
- SOPs on Administration of Second Dose of Covishield Vaccine Prior to Prescribed Time Interval under special circumstances [LINK]
- Revised Guidelines for implementation of National COVID Vaccination Program [LINK]

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline [here](#).
WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Indian Immunologicals Limited to initiate production of drug substance for Covaxin (Link)
- National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur has developed a Gargle RT-PCR Method for testing COVID-19 samples (Link)
- Centre issues advisory to States/UTs to encourage work-from-home for nursing mothers (Link)
- Family pension to be given to dependents of those who lost their lives due to COVID under Employees State Insurance Corporation (Link)
- Union Minister of State, Development of North Eastern Region, requests all government employees 18 years of age to get vaccinated at the earliest (Link)
- National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) asks States/UTS to upload data of children who have lost their parents to COVID-19, on online tracking portal “Bal Swaraj” (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- There is a decline of 69% in daily cases during last 25 days after reporting the highest number of cases (4,14,188) on 7th May 2021.

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

- In the past week, as compared to previous week, 30 states/UTs have shown a decrease in cases. Higher decline has been reported from Haryana (-63%), Delhi (-61%), Uttar Pradesh (-60%) and Rajasthan (-60%).
• In Punjab, District authorities have been directed to allow issue of oxygen cylinders to patients who require oxygen assistance after being discharged from the hospital.

• In Telangana, Mucormycosis was declared a notifiable disease under epidemic act 1897 and all Government and private hospitals have been directed to report all suspected and confirmed cases on daily basis to the IDSP.

• In Andhra Pradesh, instructions regarding prevention and management of COVID-19 - containing and controlling infection in peri-urban, rural, and tribal areas, have been issued by the Chief Secretary.

• In Kerala, going forward, the state will adopt the education of children orphaned during COVID-19 and will support them financially.

• In Maharashtra, State COVID taskforce and pediatric taskforce have jointly appealed to the state government to inoculate children younger than 5 years with the influenza vaccine.

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• COVAX facility, the global initiative to ensure COVID-19 vaccines are available worldwide to both higher-income and lower-income countries, issues statement on call to action to deliver 2 billion doses in 2021, detail here.

• Director General, WHO and the President of the Republic of Costa Rica call once again on all WHO Member States to actively support the COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP), detail here.

• WHO supports people quitting tobacco to reduce their risk of severe COVID-19, details here.

• WHO announces simple, easy-to-say labels for SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Interest and Concern by using letters of the Greek alphabet, details here.

• Heads of International Monetary Fund (IMT), World Bank Group (WB), World Health Organization (WHO) and World Trade Organization (WTO) issued joint statement on US$50 billion investment to generate US$9 trillion in global economic returns by 2025 and boost manufacturing capacity, supply, trade flows and the equitable distribution of diagnostics, oxygen, treatments, medical supplies and vaccines, details here.

• WHO validates Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use & issues interim recommendations, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination

• WCO continues to participate in Joint Monitoring Groups meetings and provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry.

• Participated in meetings regarding COVID-19 surge, third wave, response and preparation, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Puducherry, and Uttar Pradesh.

COVID-19 vaccination

• WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.

• High level oversight during vaccination is provided by WHO teams at district and state levels.

• Continues to support assessment of private hospitals in Kerala to enrol them as COVID-19 vaccination centres.

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance

• Supporting house to house survey for ILI/SARI in UP, Haryana and Punjab.

Information and Planning

• Assisting Himachal Pradesh with death audits and analysis.

• Supported development of guideline for prevention and management of Mucormycosis in Karnataka.

• Supporting Rajasthan with building capacity of rural health centers for Rapid Antigen Testing.
July 2, 2021

**RCCE**
- Facilitated sensitization and advocacy meeting of religious leaders regarding COVID-19 response in Delhi

**IPC**
- Supported IPC training at District COVID Hospital in Ladakh

**Essential Services**
- Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Gujarat, and Maharashtra
- Supporting Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Puducherry, and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance

As of 1 June 2021, India has tested more than 346 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 8.6%.

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details [here](#).

**Cumulative Coverage Report of Covid-19 vaccination (as on 1 June 2021, 07:00 AM)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>India</th>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st Dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17,12,00,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24,79,232 in last 24 Hours</td>
<td>3,00,826 in last 24 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS THIS WEEK**

- Technical note on delayed shipments for the ChAdOx1-S (recombinant) vaccines: what are the implications for the administration of second doses? - Scientific brief [link](#)
- Critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19: Interim guidelines [link](#)
- Operational guide for engaging communities in contact tracing [link](#)
- Near to Home COVID Vaccination Centres (NHCVC) for Elderly and Differently Abled Citizens [link](#)
- Clinical Guidance on Diagnosis & Management of Diabetes at COVID-19 Management facility [link](#)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline [here](#).WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- In response to rise in cases of black fungus, Center exhorts States to maintain robust practices of IPC, and sanitation & hygiene in hospitals (Link).
- Five additional manufactures given license to manufacture Amphotericin-B, anti-fungal drug to treat black fungus disease, within the country (Link).
- Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the GoI releases advisory on “Stop the Transmission, Crush the Pandemic- masks, distance, sanitation and ventilation to prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2 virus” (Link).
- MoHFW accepts NEGVAC recommendations which state that COVID-19 vaccination should be deferred by 3 months after recovery from illness (Link).
- Domestic production of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients being ramped up to augment production of critical medicines like Amphotericin-B and Remdesivir (Link).
- On-site registration in addition to online appointment for 18-44 years age group now enabled on Co WIN (Link).

INDIA SITUATION

- There is continuous decline in daily cases after reporting the highest number of cases (4,14,188) on 7th May. Cases per million is 19,235.

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

- In the past week, as compared to previous week, 26 states/UTs have shown a decrease in cases.
In Haryana, Health Minister announced that global tenders will be floated for procurement of vaccines to ensure that those above 18 are inoculated.

In Andhra Pradesh, District Collectors have been permitted to sanction INR 1 million towards ex-gratia to each child who has been orphaned due to COVID-19.

In Punjab, all HWCs, PHCs and SHCs will be provided Rapid Antigen Kits, PPE kits, pulse oximeters, digital thermometers, sanitizers, masks and any other item required to effectively perform COVID related duties.

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- The COVID-19 Sub-Committee of WHO Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety (GACVS) issued statement on safety signals related to the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine, details here
- The ongoing 74th session of the World Health Assembly (WHA) stresses the urgency of ending the current pandemic and preventing the next one by building a healthier, safer and fairer world, details here
- Collaborative of WHO & partner agencies for the Global Action Plan for Healthy Lives and Well-being for All (SDG3 GAP) have released their 2nd progress report focusing on support to countries for equitable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, details here
- WHO Global TB Programme has released its first report of country case studies on programmatic innovations to overcome challenges in TB prevention and care COVID-19, details here
- G20 leaders boost support of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator to accelerate the development of tests, treatments and vaccines and to ensure their equitable distribution, detail here
- WHO and the Swiss Confederation signs MoU to launch first WHO BioHub Facility; this facility will enhance the rapid sharing of viruses and other pathogens between laboratories and partners globally, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination
- WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry.
- WHO field staff participated in meetings regarding COVID-19 surge, response, and vaccination chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Odisha, Tripura, and Uttar Pradesh.
- WHO State Unit is supporting planning for establishing auxiliary health facility in Maharashtra.

COVID-19 vaccination
- High level oversight during vaccination is provided by WHO teams at district and state levels.
- WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance
- Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Uttar Pradesh and providing supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis.
- Supporting house to house survey for ILI/SARI in UP and Haryana.

Information and Planning
- Supported development of SOP for COVID-19 management in peri-urban, rural, and tribal areas in Assam.
- Assisting capacity building of elected representatives and urban local body functionaries regarding COVID-19 vaccine in Mysore, Karnataka.
- WCO personnel in Madhya Pradesh had supported in collecting data from over 1800 patients admitted in COVID health facilities during ‘second wave’ to assess impact of vaccination; analysis of data, and further recommendations have been shared with state officials.
Assisting Rajasthan in capacity building of Community Health Officers (CHOs) who have been recently recruited to manage COVID-19; over 6000 CHOs trained so far

Supporting refresher training on COVID-19 vaccination and AEFIs, and management of CVCs in Delhi

Supporting development of SOPs on prevention and management of Mucormycosis in Tamil Nadu

**RCCE**

Oriented 32 Radio Jockeys of various FM Channels in Rajasthan on COVID-19 messages in collaboration with UNICEF

**Essential Services**

- Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Karnataka, Mizoram, and Odisha
- Supporting Karnataka, Delhi, Puducherry and Odisha in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance

As of 25th May 2021, India has tested more than 332 M samples. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 12%. A total of 20,58,112 tests reported on 25th May 2021.

**Testing - National Level**

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details [here](#).

Cumulative Coverage Report of Covid-19 vaccination (as on 25 May 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
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<th>India</th>
<th>1st Dose</th>
<th>2nd Dose</th>
<th>Total Doses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>15,52,35,374</td>
<td>4,33,03,625</td>
<td>19,85,38,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22,51,452 in last 24 Hours</td>
<td>1,78,784 in last 24 hours</td>
<td>24,30,236 in last 24 Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT GUIDELINES THIS WEEK**

- Evidence review - Public health measures in the aviation sector in the context of COVID-19: quarantine and isolation [LINK], Annexure [LINK]
- Updated Clinical Management Protocol for adult cases of COVID19 (by MoHFW) [LINK]
- Guidelines for Integration of Co-WIN with Third-Party Applications Developed by Ecosystem Partners (by MoHFW) [LINK]

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

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WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Gap between two doses of Covishield vaccine extended from 6-8 weeks to 12-16 weeks based on recommendation of COVID-19 Working Group (Link)
- DCGI approves phase II/III clinical trial of COVAXIN in 2-18 ag group (Link)
- Government initiating steps to ramp up availability of Amphotericin B to fight Mucormycosis (Link)
- Anti COVID drug, 2-DG launched by Defense Minister & Health Minister (Link)
- National AEFI Committee submits report to MoHFW stating that bleeding and clotting events following COVID vaccination are miniscule in India (Link)
- Helpline for elderly ELDERLINE (14567) becomes operational in several states to address the sub-group’s problems during the pandemic (Link)
- Convalescent plasm removed from COVID-19 clinical management protocol (Link)
- Prime Minister interacts with State and District officials regarding COVID-19 situation and urges them to share best practices for utilization in different parts of the country (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- India reported continuous decline in daily cases after reporting the highest number of cases (4,14,188) on 7 May 2021;

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

- In the past week, as compared to previous week, 21 states/UTs have shown a decrease in cases. Higher increase, among larger states was reported from Tamil Nadu (23%), Andhra Pradesh (9%) and Odisha (7%).
• In Chhattisgarh, Chief Minister has issued directives for constitution of a Pediatrics State Task Force in preparation for the third wave, for which experts have warned
• In Karnataka, Chief Secretary has issued guidelines for medical oxygen management, in line with which 24X7 state oxygen units will be supported by helplines at the state and district levels
• In Gujarat, guidelines have been issued regarding Mucormycosis which includes information on clinical features and management, prevention, vulnerable population, etc.
• In Odisha, State level committee has been constituted in response to the reported rise in incidence of Mucormycosis amongst COVID-19 patients

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• WHO advice to hospitals on how to ease pandemic pressure in Western Pacific region, details here
• Together with the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), other United Nations agencies and nongovernmental organizations, WHO/Europe has been working with Member States to ensure that refugees and migrants are included in national COVID-19 vaccine deployment plans as part of a commitment to universal health coverage and leaving no one behind, details here
• Egypt & Iraq receives second shipments of COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX Facility, details here

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination
• WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry
• 4000 oxygen concentrators have been sent to different States/UTs according to the distribution plan WCO made in consultation with MOHFW
• WCO has carried out COVID-19 situational analysis for states that are witnessing high levels of surge in cases. Profile for Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Manipur and Uttarakhand shared with respective state authorities.
• WHO field representatives participated in meetings regarding COVID-19 surge, response, and vaccination chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Puducherry, and Tamil Nadu

COVID-19 vaccination
• WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring
• Supporting Odisha with development of global e-tender for procurement of COVID vaccine
• Assessing vaccination status of hospitalized COVID-19 patients in Madhya Pradesh to evaluate vaccine effectiveness as per state request
• Supporting Rajasthan in framing SOPs for vaccination of government employees

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance
• Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh; and supporting house to house survey for ILI/SARI in UP and Rajasthan
• Advocating for strengthening ILI/SARI passive surveillance in Odisha in response to the surge in cases

Information and Planning
• Supporting Madhya Pradesh in development of guidance for management of pediatric cases of COVID-19 and cases of mucormycosis
- Supporting development of SOPs for COVID-19 management in tea gardens in Assam; and assisting training of District and Block Programme Management Unit officers on Public Health Social measures
- Assessed preparedness of Dedicated COVID Hospitals in select districts of Gujarat for impact of cyclone Tauktae
- Supporting planning for establishment of mobile kiosks in rural areas of Madhya Pradesh; and advocating for prioritization of teachers for vaccination

Essential Services
- Supporting Chhattisgarh and Jammu & Kashmir for roll out of Pneumococcal Vaccine (PCV)
- Contributing in sensitization efforts for surveillance of AFP/ MR/ DPT in Puducherry
- Supporting Puducherry and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance
- Continuing to provide support for orientation of state health officials regarding fever and rash surveillance in Maharashtra

As of 18 May 2021, India has tested more than 318 M samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 17.6%.

Testing - National Level

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details here.

Cumulative Coverage Report of Covid-19 vaccination (as on 18 May 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>India</th>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st Dose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>14,24,28,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12,67,201 in last 24 Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

- COVID-19 Vaccine Introduction and deployment Costing tool (CVIC tool)- Ver.2 [LINK]
- Preventing and mitigating COVID-19 at work [LINK]
- SOP on COVID-19 Containment & Management in Peri-urban, Rural & Tribal areas (by MoHFW) [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Postal department starts helpline to facilitate speedy delivery of COVID related emergency shipments (Link)
- Advisory issued for induction of trained AYUSH human resources for clinical management of COVID-19 (Link)
- National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) carries out large scale COVID vaccination drive (Link)
- Japan & UNDP to provide 8 oxygen generation plants to ensure uninterrupted oxygen supply at hospitals in the North East (Link)
- MoHFW calls for replication of COVID-19 containment models of Mumbai and Pune at the national level (Link)
- States to allocate minimum 70% of allocated vaccines from GoI for providing 2nd dose to those who have been vaccinated once (Link)
- Nearly 4200 MT oxygen delivered to Maharashtra, MP, Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi, and UP (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- As on 11 May, India has reported decline in daily cases for last two days. Current cases per million is 16,411;

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

In the past week, as compared to previous week, 11 states/UTs have shown a decrease in cases A&N, D&N and DNH, Delhi, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Bihar.
In Haryana, doctors, paramedical staff, and others who are providing essential services will be provided free lodging and food at rest houses of the Public Works Department (PWD).

In Karnataka, vaccination for 18-44 years is currently on hold; order of 1 crore doses has been placed by state.

In Punjab, Medical Education Department has invited retired medical faculty to support response to surge and work as consultants in departments of anesthesia, medicine, chest and tuberculosis, pediatrics, and obstetrics and gynecology.

In Gujarat, government is planning for training healthcare workers across various levels by inducting training partners from Johns Hopkins, Stanford, and other US universities.

**WHO GLOBAL UPDATE**

- WHO and Germany launch new global hub for pandemic and epidemic intelligence; it will be a global platform for pandemic and epidemic intelligence, creating shared and networked access to vital data, driving innovations and building the communities to predict, prevent, detect, prepare and respond to health threats, details [here](#).
- WHO Director-General commends United States decision to support temporary waiver on intellectual property rights for COVID-19 vaccines, details [here](#).
- WHO lists Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use and issues policy recommendations, details [here](#).

**WHO COUNTRY UPDATE**

**Coordination**

- WCO has carried out COVID-19 situational analysis for states that witnessed high levels of surge in cases.
- WHO Representative along with UNRC, and Heads of UNICEF and UNDP participated in a meeting of Empowered Group 3 on 6 May chaired by CEO, NITI Aayog.
- Supported briefing of Chief Justice and Bench of Judges regarding COVID-19 surge and response in Odisha.
- WHO field staff participated in meetings regarding COVID-19 surge, response, and vaccination chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Kerala, MP, Meghalaya, Odisha, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.
- WHO Chhattisgarh team attended meeting with Principal Secretary, Health and MD - NHM regarding planning of auxiliary health facilities.
- Supported Maharashtra with training of over 400 Kendriya Vidyalaya teachers who have been identified as 'supersavers' for COVID-19 response specifically for mild and asymptomatic cases in home isolation.

**COVID-19 vaccination**

- WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.

**Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance**

- Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Andhra Pradesh, Tripura, and Uttar Pradesh.

**Infection Prevention and Control**

- State Unit is supporting training of manpower deployed in COVID Care Centers (CCC) and Dedicated COVID Hospitals (DCH) in Odisha.
- Support is being provided to re-train workers of private and public health facilities in Uttar Pradesh regarding IPC measures and management of suspected COVID-19 patients.

**Essential Services**

- Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana.
Field Units supporting Karnataka, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance.

As of 11 May 2021, India has tested more than 305 M samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 22%.

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details here.

Cumulative Coverage Report of Covid-19 vaccination (as on 11 May 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
<th>1st Dose</th>
<th>2nd Dose</th>
<th>Total Doses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>13,54,94,474</td>
<td>3,72,15,592</td>
<td>17,27,10,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10,75,948 in last 24 Hours</td>
<td>14,27,808 in last 24 hours</td>
<td>25,03,756 in last 24 Hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

- WHO Information Note: COVID-19 considerations for tuberculosis (TB) care [LINK]
- Interim recommendations for use of the inactivated COVID-19 vaccine developed by China National Biotec Group (CNBG), Sinopharm- Interim guidance [LINK], Annexes [LINK], Background document [LINK]
- Estimating COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness against severe acute respiratory infections (SARI) hospitalizations associated with laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2: an evaluation using the test-negative design [LINK]
- WHO Technical resource package to Engage the Private Health Service Delivery Sector in the Response to COVID-19 [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK]
- COVID-19 natural immunity: Scientific Brief [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline here. WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- PM authorizes key decisions to boost HR to fight COVID-19 (Link)
- ICMR issued advisory for COVID-19 testing during the second wave (Link)
- Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) to install five medical oxygen plants in Delhi & Haryana (Link)
- PM reviews Army’s preparedness & initiatives for COVID-19 (Link)
- AYUSH 64, formulation developed by the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, found useful in the treatment of asymptomatic, mild, and moderate COVID-19 infection as an adjunct to standard care (Link)
- IIT Bombay shows how to solve oxygen shortage by converting nitrogen generator into oxygen generator (Link)
- Minister of State for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways reviews preparedness of hospitals in major ports for COVID Care Management (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- As on 05 May 2021, India reported 378,075 (7DMA) new cases accounting for 47% of new cases reported globally and 276 daily cases per million population. The daily cases reported have declined over last three days;

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

In the past week, as compared to previous week, seven states/UTs (Ladakh, D&N and DNH, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Delhi, and Madhya Pradesh) have shown a decrease (in %) in cases.
• In Chhattisgarh, Chief Minister launched phase 3 of COVID-19 vaccination for those between 18-44 years, and inaugurated ‘Oxygen on Wheels’ initiative by Medical College Raipur to provide oxygen to patients under home isolation.
• In Haryana, MBBS and final-year postgraduate (PG) students were deployed for COVID-19 duties in addition to the AYUSH and dental surgeons who are already been deployed for home isolation and testing duties.
• In Punjab, OPD facilities were suspended in all 3 medical colleges and all beds reserved for COVID-19 patients until further notice.
• In Tamil Nadu, patients in need of Remdesivir drug could approach Government of Tamil Nadu Medical Supplies with relevant documents (patient’s Aadhar card, RT-PCR & CT scan report, prescription, etc.) and seek procurement.

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• WHO’s Emergency Use Listing (EUL) assesses the quality, safety and efficacy of Moderna COVID-19 vaccine (mRNA 1273) and have listed it for emergency use making it the fifth vaccine to receive emergency validation from WHO, details here.
• Government of Sweden announces to share 1 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine with the COVAX Facility to provide life-saving vaccines to people at risk from COVID-19 in low income countries, details here.
• WHO and UN Global Pulse, the Secretary-General’s digital innovation initiative has embarked on a new venture to analyse content shared on public radio across the African continent to support infodemic monitoring pertaining COVID-19, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination
• WCO is working with SEARO and HQ to provide 4000 oxygen concentrators, and lab supplies.
• WCO has conducted COVID19 situational analysis for states that are witnessing a high levels of surge in cases. State profiles with specific recommendations were shared with state functionaries.
• WHO teams participated in meetings regarding COVID-19 surge, response, and vaccination chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.
• WHO teams attended review meeting regarding COVID-19 surge and briefed Finance Minister, Andhra Pradesh regarding the situation and ongoing WHO support.
• WHO continues to support analysis of COVID-19 best practices across multiple states and sharing with Gujarat to strengthen state response.
• WCO organised 19th health partners meeting to update on covid19 situation and UN agencies response.

COVID-19 vaccination
• WHO teams provided High level oversight during vaccination at district and state levels.
• WHO teams monitored vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, and microplanning.
• WHO supported assessment of private hospitals in Kerala to enrol them as COVID-19 vaccination centres.

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance
• Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.
• Supporting Rajasthan in validation of home isolation activity.

Information and Planning
• Supported Karnataka with strengthening availability of hospital beds in Bangalore; and in hospital preparedness assessment across the State.
Essential Services

- Efforts were made to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization which are underway in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana
- Supported Karnataka, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance

As of 4th May 2021, India has tested more than 293 M samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 21.6%.

Testing - National Level

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details here.

Cumulative Coverage Report of Covid-19 vaccination (as on 4 May 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1st Dose</th>
<th>2nd Dose</th>
<th>Total Doses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>12,92,27,412</td>
<td>2,97,05,509</td>
<td>15,89,32,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8,38,343 in last 24 Hours</td>
<td>8, 70,047 in last 24 hours</td>
<td>17,08,390 in last 24 Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

- WHO’s technical package for conducting safe onsite COVID-19 intra-action reviews during the pandemic [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK] [LINK]
- Protocol for Management of Covid - 19 in the Paediatric Age Group [LINK]
- Revised guidelines for Home Isolation of mild /asymptomatic COVID-19 cases [LINK]
- Guidance on augmenting Human Resources for COVID – 19 [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Union Government allocates supply of Remdesivir to 19 States/UTs with high burden of COVID-19 cases (Link)
- Prime Minister chairs review meeting regarding COVID-19 with Chief Ministers of high burden states (Link)
- 551 Pressure Swing Adsorption Oxygen Generation Plants to be set up in public health facilities across the country through PM CARES (Link)
- Union Government advises States/UTs on intense action and local containment measures in COVID-19 affected districts for effective management of COVID surge (Link)
- Steel sector companies taking efforts to supplement medical oxygen supply in the country (Link)
- Empowered Group-3 chaired by NITI Aayog CEO reached out to more than 1 lakh CSOs to deliberate coordinated strategies to navigate through impact of surge of cases (Link)
- To address shortage of oxygen tankers in the country, the Union Government imports 20 cryogenic tankers of 10 MT and 20 MT capacity and allocates them to States (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- India is reporting highest number of daily cases in the world, almost 50% of new cases reported in the world;
- Among Indian states Maharashtra is still leading the tally with highest number of cases (more than 4 million) followed by Kerala, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu (all more than 1 million).
- India is also reporting fourth highest number of deaths in the world; current case fatality ratio (CFR) is 1.12%;

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

In the past week, as compared to previous week, all states/UTs except Ladakh have shown an increase in cases. Maharashtra has shown the lowest % increase in cases in comparison to last week followed by Chhattisgarh.

WHO Situation Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Confirmed Cases</th>
<th>Total Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>1,76,36,307</td>
<td>1,97,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Asia Region</td>
<td>20,669,435</td>
<td>261,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>147,539,302</td>
<td>3,116,444</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Delhi, Deputy Chief Minister has been appointed the ‘Nodal Minister of COVID-19 Management’ to ensure inter-ministerial coordination and monitoring of all COVID-19 related affairs

In Haryana, testing and vaccination of all farmers protesting on the Haryana-Delhi borders, and all pilgrims returning from Kumbh Mela have been mandated
In Punjab, all elective surgeries have been banned thus reserving 75% of beds in private hospitals for COVID-19 patients.

In Uttar Pradesh, OPD services have been discontinued, only emergency and essential services along with immunization and institutional deliveries will continue.

**WHO GLOBAL UPDATE**

- On the basis of emerging scientific evidences, the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Immunization has updated its interim guidance on the use of the AstraZeneca vaccines against COVID-19, details [here](#).
- WHO “pulse survey” reveals that over one year into the COVID-19 pandemic, substantial disruptions persist, with about 90% of countries still reporting one or more disruptions to essential health services, details [here](#).
- The ACT-Accelerator alliance, launched to develop and deliver tests, treatments and vaccines the world needs to fight COVID-19, marks its first anniversary, detail [here](#).
- On World Immunization Week, WHO, UNICEF & GAVI highlights the urgent need for a renewed global commitment to improve vaccination access and uptake. The immunization services have started to recover from disruptions caused by COVID-19, millions of children remain vulnerable to deadly diseases, details [here](#).

**WHO COUNTRY UPDATE**

- **Coordination**
  - WCO has carried out situation analysis for states/UTs witnessing intensive transmission: Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. State profiles with specific recommendations are being shared with state functionaries for action.
  - WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry.
  - Participated in meetings regarding COVID-19 surge, response, and vaccination chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries in Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha, and Uttar Pradesh.

- **COVID-19 vaccination**
  - High level oversight during vaccination is provided by WHO teams at district and state levels.
  - WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.

- **Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance**
  - Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Andhra Pradesh & Uttar Pradesh.

- **Infection Prevention and Control**
  - Continues to support re-training of workers of private and public health facilities in Uttar Pradesh regarding IPC measures and management of suspected COVID-19 patients.

- **Information and Planning**
  - Supporting Rajasthan with management of beds and oxygen for COVID-19 patients.
  - Supported Public Health Social Measures (PHSM) COVID-19 Risk Assessment in Delhi.

- **Essential Services**
  - Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana.
  - Supporting Andhra Pradesh with sensitization efforts for surveillance of AFP/ MR/ DPT.
Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Situation Update Report – 65

April 28, 2021

- Supporting Karnataka, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance
- Supporting Lakshadweep in preparing for launch of Integrated Disease Surveillance Program-Integrated Health Information Platform (IDSP-IHIP)

As of 27th April 2021, India has tested more than 280 M samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. Most of the large states are ramping RTPCR tests. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 20%.

Testing - National Level

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details here.

Cumulative Coverage Report of Covid-19 vaccination (as on 27 April 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st Dose</td>
<td>2nd Dose</td>
<td>Total Doses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>12,13,61,009</td>
<td>2,29,10,177</td>
<td>14,52,71,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20,95,223 in last 24 Hours</td>
<td>12,64,740 in last 24 hours</td>
<td>33,59,963 in last 24 Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/ REPORTS THIS WEEK

- Second round of pulse survey on continuity of essential health services during the COVID-19 [LINK]
- ACT now, ACT together 2020-2021 Impact Report [LINK]
- Expanding our understanding of post COVID-19 condition: report of WHO webinar- 9 February 2021 [LINK]
- Disability considerations for COVID-19 vaccination: WHO and UNICEF policy brief, 19 April 2021 [LINK]
- COVID-19: Proning for self-care, MoHFW, GOI [LINK]
- Clinical Guidance on Management of Adult Covid-19 patients, MoHFW, GOI [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

• Russia’s Sputnik V approved for emergency use in India (Link)
• Centre fast tracks emergency approvals for foreign produced COVID-19 vaccines that have been granted emergency use authorization in other countries (Link)
• Prime Minister interacts with governors on COVID-19 situation and vaccination drive in the country (Link)
• RTPCR Tests being used in India do not miss UK, Brazil, South Africa and double mutant variants (Link)
• Union Health Ministry issues regulatory pathways for foreign produced COVID-19 vaccines (Link)
• Prime Minister addresses the nation on the COVID-19 situation (Link)
• Everyone above age of 18 will be eligible to get vaccinated against COVID-19 from May 1 (Link)
• Union Territories exhorted to take necessary measures to prohibit supply of oxygen for industrial purposes in view of rising cases of COVID-19 (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

• India reports highest number of daily cases at 233,091 (7DMA). This is more than 25% of daily cases reported in the world.
• Five states, namely, Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh are contributing almost 55% of total cases.
• In the past week, 1,631,636 cases reported in country with Maharashtra reporting highest number of cases (439,266) followed by Uttar Pradesh (174,212) and Delhi (140,458), details, here.

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

In the past week, as compared to previous week, all states/UTs have shown an increase in cases. Maharashtra has shown the lowest % increase in cases in comparison to last week.

WHO Situation Update

India
15,321,089 Confirmed Cases
180,530 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region
18,562,170 Confirmed Cases
244,035 Total Deaths
(21 April 2021)

World
141,754,944 Confirmed Cases
3,025,835 Deaths

• In Assam, guidelines for COVID-19 response have been launched for the upcoming Bihu festivities
• In Gujarat, orders have been issued to establish helpline number for proper distribution of Inj. Remdesivir
• In Maharashtra, detailed list of private vendors have been issued for buying Inj. Remdesivir
• In West Bengal, PS of Health appointed 6 teams comprising of eminent doctors who will visit COVID hospitals for monitoring of treatment protocol and to streamline clinical management

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• Benefits of continuing to provide life-saving HIV services outweigh the risk of COVID-19 transmission by 100 to 1, detail [here](#)
• Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety (GACVS) review of latest evidence of rare adverse blood coagulation events with AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine (Vaxzevria and Covishield), details [here](#)
• Greta Thunberg, climate and environment activist, joins WHO’s call for vaccine equity, details [here](#)
• WHO Director-General convened 7th meeting of the Emergency Committee under the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR) regarding COVID-19, details [here](#)

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination
• WHO Participated in meetings regarding COVID-19 surge, response, and vaccination chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Meghalaya, and Uttar Pradesh
• WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry

COVID-19 vaccination
• WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring
• Supporting Haryana in capacity building of private COVID-19 vaccination centers
• Facilitated sensitization workshops regarding COVID-19 vaccine targeting frontline and healthcare workers in Meghalaya

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance
• Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Uttar Pradesh

Laboratory Testing
• Analyzed testing trends and recovery rate in North East states and shared with officials of Arunachal Pradesh

Infection Prevention and Control
• Supporting virtual training of ANMs in Chhattisgarh on IPC and COVID-19 vaccination
• Continues to support re-training of private hospitals in Uttar Pradesh regarding IPC measures and management of suspected COVID-19 patients

Risk Communication and Community Engagement
• Held sensitization meeting regarding COVID-19 appropriate behaviours and vaccination targeting religious leaders in Bihar

Essential Services
• Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana
• Supporting Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry with sensitization efforts for surveillance of AFP/ MR/ DPT
Supporting Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Nagaland, Punjab, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance

Supporting Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh in preparing for launch of Integrated Disease Surveillance Program-Integrated Health Information Platform (IDSP-IHIP)

Continues to facilitate workshop regarding modified case definition of Measles-Rubella and revised surveillance guidelines in Chhattisgarh, Kerala, and Lakshadweep

As of 20 April 2021, India has tested more than 269 M samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 16%.

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details here.

Cumulative Coverage Report of Covid-19 vaccination (as on 21 April 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1st Dose</th>
<th>2nd Dose</th>
<th>Total Doses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>111,645,892</td>
<td>18,473,418</td>
<td>130,119,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,986,711 in last 24 Hours</td>
<td>1,003,486 in last 24 hours</td>
<td>2,990,197 in last 24 Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

- COVID-19 and mandatory vaccination: Ethical considerations and caveats [LINK]
- WHO COVID-19 essential supplies forecasting tool (COVID-ESFT) [LINK]
- Asthma and COVID-19: scientific brief [LINK]
- International Nonproprietary Names for Variant COVID-19 Vaccine Active Substances [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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HIGHLIGHTS

• From 11 April 2021 all individuals above 45 years, employed formally at a workplace can be vaccinated at workplace vaccination centers (Link)
• Union Health Minister addresses WHO on World Health Day (Link)
• Union Health Minister reviews COVID-19 situation and vaccination progress in 11 States/UTs with high burden of cases (Link)
• Prime Minister interacts with chief ministers of various states regarding COVID-19 situation (Link)
• Union Health Minister chairs 24th meeting of Group of Ministers (GOM) on COVID-19 (Link)
• Centre to help Maharashtra procure over 1000 ventilators from Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh (Link)
• Centre prohibits exports of Injection Remdesivir and Remdesivir Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) till the COVID-19 situation in the country improves (Link)
• Union Minister for Personnel, Public Grievances calls for celebrating the “Teeka Utsav” by facilitating vaccination for all those eligible (Link)
• India becomes the fastest country to administer 100 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

• India witnesses surge in cases on daily basis; in the past 24 hours, 168,912 confirmed cases have been reported. This is the highest number of daily COVID-19 cases reported by India.
• Five states, namely, Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh are contributing more than 55% of total cases here.
• In the past week, India has reported 5,078 deaths, of which the highest were in Maharashtra (2,109) followed by Chhattisgarh (580) and Punjab (424).

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

In the past week, as compared to previous week, all states/UTs has shown an increase in cases except Nagaland.
• In Maharashtra, government has decided that any housing society with more than 5 active COVID-19 cases will be treated as a micro-containment zone
• In Punjab, gatherings have been banned and night curfew has been imposed from 9 pm to 5 am in all districts
• In Uttar Pradesh, Chief secretary has been deployed by the Chief Minister’s Office to Kumbh areas for three days to monitor the situation

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• WHO urges countries to build a fairer, healthier world post-COVID-19. On World Health Day (7 April), WHO issued five calls for urgent action to improve health for all people, details [here](#)
• Alisson Becker and WHO Foundation launch campaign to raise resources and support treatment for COVID-19 patients, details [here](#)
• WHO issued interim statement of the COVID-19 subcommittee on safety of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine, details [here](#)
• More than one hundred economies have received life-saving COVID-19 vaccines from COVAX, the global mechanism for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines, details [here](#)
Supporting Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, and Tamil Nadu in preparing for launch of Integrated Disease Surveillance Program-Integrated Health Information Platform (IDSP-IHIP)

Supporting Haryana for National Immunization Day for Polio

Facilitating workshop regarding modified case definition of Measles-Rubella and revised surveillance guidelines in Chhattisgarh and Tamil Nadu

Orienting state health officials regarding fever and rash surveillance in Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra

As of 12 April 2021, India has tested more than 257 million samples. Tests include both, RT-PCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 10.7%.

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details here.

Cumulative Coverage Report of Covid-19 vaccination (as on 12 April 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
<th>Total Doses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>91,587,400</td>
<td>104,528,565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12,941,165</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,701,439 in last 24 hours</td>
<td>2,933,418 in last 24 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

- Safe Ramadan practices in the context of COVID-19 [LINK]
- Reducing public health risks associated with the sale of live wild animals of mammalian species in traditional food markets [LINK]
- Guidance on COVID-19 vaccination at work places (Government & Private)* [LINK]

(*Ministry of Health & FW, Government of India)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Union Health Minister launches Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP), the revised Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) digital platform (Link)
- PM reviews COVID-19 pandemic situation and Covid-19 vaccination (Link)
- Cabinet Secretary reviews COVID-19 status with all States/UTs (Link)
- COVID-19 vaccination to be offered on all days of April at all Public and Private COVID Vaccination Centers, including holidays (Link)
- Union Health Secretary and Member, NITI Aayog chair high level meeting to review COVID-19 status and public health measures taken by Punjab and Chandigarh (Link)
- Union Health Minister releases document titled - “Chasing the Virus: A Public Health Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic” (Link)
- Director-General of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) makes presentation to Vice President on Sewage and Air Surveillance System to detect COVID-19 (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- As of 5th April 2021, India reported a total of 12,589,067 confirmed cases and 103,558 confirmed cases within the past 24 hours. This is highest number of daily COVID-19 cases reported by India. A total of 165,101 deaths have been reported, details here.
- Now India is reporting highest number of daily cases in the world.
- Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Delhi, and Uttar Pradesh report a steep rise in daily cases (Link)

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

In the past week, as compared to previous week, all states/UTs has shown an increase in cases except Manipur.

- In Kerala, nodal officers have been appointed to ensure safe conduct of assembly polls with adherence to COVID-19 protocol and guidelines
- In Himachal Pradesh, all congregations and langars inside and around places of worship have been prohibited.
- In Maharashtra, lockdown over the weekends has been announced till 30 April.

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- Carl Bildt, former Prime Minister of Sweden, appointed WHO Special Envoy for the ACT-Accelerator; he will help lead the collective advocacy for the ACT-Accelerator, mobilizing support and resources towards its strategy for 2021. Details [here](#).
- The “Living with the Times” toolkit from WHO contains illustrated posters with key messages for older adults on how to maintain their well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic. Details [here](#).
- WHO calls for further studies on origin of SARS-CoV-2 virus, reiterates that all hypotheses remain open to identify the zoonotic source of the virus and the route of introduction to the human population. Details [here](#).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

**Coordination**

- WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry.
- Participated in meetings regarding COVID-19 surge, response, and vaccination chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries in Delhi, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh.
- Continues to attend weekly review meeting of COVID Intensive Vaccination Committee chaired by Lieutenant Governor in Puducherry.
- Participated in the expert committee meeting chaired by Chief Secretary in Tamil Nadu and presented COVID-19 situation data and vaccination monitoring indicators.

**COVID-19 vaccination**

- WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.

**Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance**

- Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.
- Supporting mask compliance study in all Kumbha Mela Zones in Haridwar, Uttar Pradesh.

**Essential Services**

- Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana.
- Supporting Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, AP with sensitization efforts for surveillance of AFP/ MR/ DPT.
- Supporting Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance.
- Supporting AP, Chhattisgarh, Chandigarh, Gujarat, Haryana, J&K, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, MP, Telangana, in planning and implementation of Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0.
- Supporting Haryana for National Immunization Day for Polio.
Facilitated workshop on modified case definition of Measles-Rubella in Chhattisgarh
Successfully advocated for initiation of fever and rash surveillance in Gujarat

As of 5th April 2021, India has tested more than 249 M samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. Most of the large states are ramping RTPCR tests. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 7.7%.

Testing - National Level

India continued to drive Covid-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details here.

Cumulative Coverage Report of COVID-19 Vaccination

(As of 06 Apr’21 at 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1st Dose</th>
<th>2nd Dose</th>
<th>Total Doses</th>
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<td>India</td>
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<td>1.08,33,617</td>
<td>8.31,10.926</td>
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<tr>
<td>(39,00,505 in 24 Hours)</td>
<td>(4,00,461 in 24 Hours)</td>
<td>(43,00,966 in 24 Hours)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

- Therapeutics and COVID-19: living guideline [LINK]
- WHO-convened global study of origins of SARS-CoV-2: China Part [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline here.
WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

• Ministry of Home Affairs issues revised guidelines for effective control of COVID-19; States/ UTs to strictly enforce Test-Track-Treat protocol (Link)
• Director, National Centre for Disease Control states that 771 variants have been found in the country through genome sequencing so far, and includes strains from UK, South Africa, and Brazil (Link)
• Union Minister of Health asserts communication strategy for COVID-19 vaccine is prepared to address vaccine hesitancy among population (Link)
• Centre rushes high level multi-disciplinary teams to Chhattisgarh & Chandigarh to assist with COVID-19 control & containment measures (Link)
• Union Health Secretary chairs high level meeting with 12 States and UTs reporting surge in cases (Link)
• Maharashtra, Punjab, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu report a rise in cases, and account for 81% of daily new cases (Link)
• As on 25 March, India stands second in the world in terms of the number of vaccine doses administered (Link)
• India crosses a landmark milestone of over 6 crore vaccine doses administered (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

• As of 29 March 2021, India reported a total of 12,039,644 confirmed cases and 68,020 confirmed cases within the past 24 hours. There is continued surge of cases. Cases per million is 8,594 and a total of 161,843 deaths have been reported, details here.
• Five states, namely, Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are contributing more than 54% of total cases.
• About 90% of affected districts reported one or more than one COVID-19 case in last seven days
• In the past week, India has reported 1,876 deaths, of which the highest were in Maharashtra (782) followed by Punjab (366) and Chhattisgarh (126). Punjab has reported highest CFR (2.9%).

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

In the past week, as compared to previous week, 31 states have shown an increase in cases.
In Chandigarh UT, a ban was placed on all public gatherings for Holi, and no clubs, hotels or restaurants were allowed to host any ceremonial gathering on the occasion.

In Himachal Pradesh, a “no mask – no service” policy has been mandated, in line with which only those with face covers/ masks will be allowed to enter public places like hospitals, temples, schools, offices, etc.

In Punjab, all educational institutes, other than medical and nursing colleges will remain closed till March 31.

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Organization for Migration (IOM) and World Health Organization (WHO) has issued a joint statement on prioritization of COVID-19 vaccination for seafarers and aircrew, details here.
- Global COVAX Facility has notified that deliveries of COVID-19 vaccines produced by the Serum Institute of India (SII) to lower-income economies will face delays during March and April as the Government of India battles a new wave of COVID-19 infections, details here.
- WHO Medical Product Alert refers to falsified COVID-19 Vaccine identified as “BNT162b2” detected in Mexico in February 2021 and recently confirmed as falsified to the WHO, details here.
- Global leaders unite in urgent call for international pandemic treaty, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination
- WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry.
- Participated in review meetings regarding COVID-19 surge, response, and vaccination chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers and/or Health Secretaries in Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka and Punjab.
- Participated in a meeting to prepare launching of IHIP chaired by Health Secretary, Uttarakhand.
- Continues to attend weekly review meeting of COVID Intensive Vaccination Committee chaired by Lieutenant Governor in Puducherry.
- Participated in the expert committee meeting chaired by Chief Secretary in Tamil Nadu and presented COVID-19 situation data and vaccination monitoring indicators.

COVID-19 vaccination
- High level oversight during vaccination is provided by WHO teams at district and state levels.
- WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.
- WCO continues to support assessment of private hospitals in Kerala to enrol them as COVID-19 vaccination centres.

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance
- Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Uttar Pradesh.
  - provided supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis.
- Supporting Punjab and Andhra Pradesh with response to recent surge in new COVID-19 cases across multiple states

**Essential Services**
- Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and Puducherry
- Supporting Puducherry and Tamil Nadu with sensitization efforts for surveillance of AFP/ MR/ DPT
- Supporting Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh UT, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Telangana, in planning and implementation of intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0
- Supporting Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh UT, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Ladakh, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Uttrakhand in conduct of training program on Integrated Disease Surveillance Program-Integrated Health Information Platform (IDSP-IHIP)
- Supporting Haryana for National Immunization Day for Polio
- Supporting assessment of Guntur Medical College-Microbiology Department as part of laboratory supported DPT surveillance strengthening in Andhra Pradesh

As of 29th March 2021, India has tested more than 241 M samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. Most of the large states are ramping RTPCR tests. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 5.33% and rising.

**GUIDELINES THIS WEEK**
- Case for private sector support: The ACT-Accelerator [LINK]
- Operational considerations to expedite genomic sequencing of GISRS surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 [LINK]
- 55th report of the WHO Expert Committee on Specifications for Pharmaceutical Preparations [LINK]
- COVID-19 School Infection Prevention and Control and Preparedness Assessment Tool* [LINK]
  (*Recent publication from National Centre for Disease Control)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

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WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime Minister exhorts Chief Ministers of multiple states to increase the number of vaccination centers and to scale up RT-PCR tests (Link)
- Union Health Secretary calls on States to optimally use COVID-19 vaccine and to reduce vaccine wastage drastically (Link)
- Maharashtra, Punjab, Karnataka, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh continue to record a steep rise in cases, and account for over 80% of daily new COVID-19 cases (Link)
- Center closely monitoring and actively engaging with States/UTs regarding surge of COVID-19 cases (Link)
- Union Health Secretary urged state of Uttarakhand to employ stringent measures to control the spread of COVID-19 during Kumbh Mela (Link)
- India records a milestone in COVID-19 vaccination with administration of over 4 crore vaccine doses (Link)
- Centre writes to States/UTs to increase the interval between two doses of COVISHIELD to 4-8 weeks from initial 4-6 weeks (Link)
- India crosses a key milestone in universal primary healthcare as it reaches its target of operationalizing 70,000 Ayushman Bharat – Health and Wellness centers ahead of time (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- As on 21 March, India has reported 159,755 COVID-19 deaths with case fatality ratio (CFR) of 1.38%. Maharashtra has reported highest number of COVID-19 deaths (53,300) followed by Tamil Nadu (12,590) and Karnataka (12,432), details here.
- In the past week, India has reported 1,148 deaths, of which the highest were in Maharashtra (489) followed by Punjab (228) and Kerala (101). Punjab has reported highest CFR (3.0%) followed by Maharashtra (2.2%), Sikkim (2.2%) and West Bengal (1.8%). details here.
- More than 85% of affected districts reported one or more COVID-19 case in last seven days

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

In the past week, as compared to previous week, 31 states have shown an increase in cases. The states/UTs with decrease in cases during last week are Nagaland, Kerala, Meghalaya & Manipur.
In Haryana, State police has launched a two-week campaign to promote COVID appropriate behaviors; under this campaign those found without masks will be provided one for free.

In Madhya Pradesh, weekend lockdown has been imposed in three cities namely, Bhopal, Indore, and Jabalpur.

In Punjab, schools and anganwadi centers have been closed due to the surge in number of cases.

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

COVID-19 highlights urgent need to reboot global effort to end tuberculosis; thus, building up health systems so everyone can get the services they need to fight against TB, details here.

WHO Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety (GACVS) COVID-19 subcommittee on safety signals related to the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine has concluded that the vaccine (including Covishield) continues to have a positive benefit-risk profile, with tremendous potential to prevent infections and reduce deaths, details here.

New research from WHO and partners shows that the COVID-19 pandemic is severely affecting the quality of care given to small and sick newborns, resulting in unnecessary suffering and deaths, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination

- WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district levels.
- Attended high level COVID-19 review meetings in Assam, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.
- Participated in COVID-19 response and vaccination review meeting chaired by Health Secretary in Jammu and Kashmir.

COVID-19 vaccination

- High level oversight during vaccination is provided by WHO teams at district and state levels.
- WCO continues to support training/retraining of vaccinators and other vaccination team members.
- WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.
- WCO has deployed two officials in Mandi and Kangra regions in Himachal Pradesh to support COVID-19 vaccination drive, and to strengthen monitoring and surveillance for routine immunization and VPD.
- Advocating for an increase in session sites in Nagaland.
- WCO continues to support assessment of private hospitals in Kerala to enrol them as COVID-19 vaccination centres.

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance

- Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.
- In Uttar Pradesh, to identify ILI/SARI symptoms, a total of 31,544,836 houses have been covered and 162,017 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams.

Essential Services

- Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu.
• Supporting Punjab and Tamil Nadu in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance
• Supporting Chandigarh, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra in planning and implementation of Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0
• Supporting Chandigarh, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Laskhwadeep in conduction of training program on Integrated Disease Surveillance Program-Integrated Health Information Platform (IDSP-IHIP)

As of 21st March 2021, India has tested more than 233 M samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. Most of the large states are ramping RTPCR tests. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 3.48%.

Testing - National Level

GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

• Interim recommendations for the use of the Janssen Ad26.COV2.S (COVID-19) vaccine [LINK]
• A guide to contracting for health services during the COVID-19 pandemic [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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HIGHLIGHTS

- India’s total Active Caseload has reached 2,19,262 (as on 15 March), comprising 1.93% of the total Positive Cases. The national Recovery Rate is 96.68%. (Link).
- Maharashtra, Punjab, Karnataka, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu continue to report surge in daily cases (Link).
- Union Health Minister asserts the necessity to maintain COVID appropriate behavior even after vaccine is available (Link).
- Close to 3 crore vaccine doses administered in India as part of the world’s largest vaccination drive (Link).
- India registers a new landmark in COVID-19 vaccination with highest single day vaccination of over 20 lakh doses (Link).
- Center closely monitoring and actively engaging with States/UTs facing surge of COVID-19 cases (Link).
- Member (Health), NITI Aayog announces that Covaxin is now allowed for restricted use in emergency situation in public interest (Link).
- Union Health Minister inaugurates multiple facilities at AIIMS Bhopal (Link).

WHO Situation Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Confirmed Cases</th>
<th>Total Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>11,385,339</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Asia Region</td>
<td>13,949,629</td>
<td>212,900</td>
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<tr>
<td>World</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INDIA SITUATION

- As of 15th March 2021, India reported 26,291 confirmed cases over the past 24 hours and 11,385,339 confirmed cases cumulatively. There is surge of cases since last few days. Cases per million is 8,126 and a total of 158,725 deaths have been reported, details here.
- Among Indian states Maharashtra reported the highest number of cases (more than 2.3 million) followed by Kerala (more than 1 million) and Karnataka (960,272). Five states, namely, Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu are contributing more than 53% of total cases.

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

In the past week, as compared to previous week, 27 states have shown an increase in cases; however, 9 State have witnessed decrease in cases.
In Madhya Pradesh, ‘Roko-Toko Abhiyaan’ has been launched to urge people to wear a mask, in line with state issued detailed order for COVID-19 prevention and control.

In Punjab, Chief Secretary has ordered that school teachers eligible for vaccination must be vaccinated as front line workers on priority.

In Rajasthan, instructions have been issued to increase sampling in schools, religious places, railway stations, bus stands, etc.

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- ACT-Accelerator releases prioritized strategy and budget for 2021 to change the course of the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, details here
- WHO has listed the COVID-19 vaccine Ad26.COV2.S, developed by Janssen (Johnson & Johnson), for emergency use in all countries and for COVAX roll-out, details here
- COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund marks first anniversary; it is an innovative platform to enable private companies, individuals and other organizations to contribute directly to WHO’s efforts to prevent, detect, and respond to COVID-19 around the world, details here

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination

- WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district levels
- Participated in COVID-19 review meeting in Delhi which was attended by Health Secretary, Additional Chief Secretary, and Principal Secretary Health
- Attended meeting chaired by Chief Secretary regarding ramping up COVID-19 vaccination in Karnataka; and continue to regularly attend review meeting regarding COVID-19 response and vaccination, chaired by Health Minister
- Participated in COVID-19 response and vaccination review meetings chaired by Health Secretary in Tamil Nadu

COVID-19 vaccination

- High level oversight during vaccination is provided by WHO teams at district and state levels
- WCO continues to support training/retraining of vaccinators and other vaccination team members
- WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring
- WCO continues to support assessment of private hospitals in Kerala to enrol them as COVID-19 vaccination centres
- On the request of Principal Secretary Health, WCO personnel in Gujarat prepared concept note to initiate study to assess impact of vaccine

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance

- Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh
  - provide supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis
In Uttar Pradesh, to identify ILI/SARI symptoms, a total of 31,515,912 houses have been covered and 161,519 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams.

**Essential Services**

- Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Puducherry, and Tamil Nadu.
- Held MR and AFP surveillance workshops and facilitated review meetings to strengthen immunization in Puducherry.
- Supporting Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Punjab in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance.
- Supporting Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Telangana in planning and implementation of Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0.
- Supporting Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, and Puducherry in conduction of training program on Integrated Disease Surveillance Program-Integrated Health Information Platform (IDSP-IHIP).
- Supporting Puducherry in facilitating lab supported DPT Surveillance.

India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.87%. A total of 703,772 tests reported on 15th March 2021.

**Testing - National Level**

![Testing - National Level](image)

**RECENT GUIDELINES**

- WHO Living guideline: Drugs to prevent COVID-19 [LINK]
- COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan - Operational Planning Guideline [LINK]
- Monitoring COVID-19 vaccination: Considerations for the collection and use of vaccination data [LINK]

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

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HIGHLIGHTS

- New phase of COVID-19 vaccination will now take a demand-driven rather than supply driven approach, asserts Chairperson, Empowered Group of COVID-19 vaccination (Link)
- Union Health Minister receives his first dose of COVID-19 vaccine and appeals to all those eligible to take the vaccine and negate any rumors related to it (Link)
- States/UTs urged to utilize 100% capacities of private hospitals functioning as COVID Vaccination Centers (Link)
- Phase 3 Clinical Trial of COVAXIN, developed by ICMR & Bharat Biotech, shows 81% efficacy (Link)
- Maharashtra, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, and Karnataka continue to report surge in daily cases (Link)
- Centre rushes high level public health teams to Maharashtra and Punjab to assist in COVID-19 control and containment measures in view of recent surge in cases (Link)
- COVID-19 vaccination drive initiated at Election Commission of India headquarters for its officers and staff (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- As of 09 March 2021, India reported 11,244,786 confirmed cases. There is slight surge of cases since the past few days. A total of 157,930 deaths have been reported details here.
- Five states, namely, Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu are contributing more than 50% of total cases

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

Over the last week, 24 out of 36 states and UTs have shown an increase in cases as following:
• In Maharashtra, lockdown in five districts of Amravati division, and night curfew in Pune has been extended
• In Rajasthan, night curfew has been imposed in 13 districts given the surge in number of cases
• In Tamil Nadu, guidelines on COVID-19 Prevention and Control have been issued by the Directorate of Public Health in light of upcoming assembly elections

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• On behalf of COVAX Facility, WHO signed an agreement for the administration of no-fault compensation programme for the 92 AMC countries and economies without need to resort to law courts. This is the first and only vaccine injury compensation mechanism operating on an international scale, details here
• WHO has placed into the public domain the status of COVID-19 vaccines for within WHO EUL/PQ evaluation process. details here

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) works closely with MoHFW, in responding to COVID-19 and roll out of evidence-based interventions including Covid19 vaccination at the national, state and district level.

Coordination
• WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry
• WCO teams contributed to review meetings on covid19 response and vaccination in Karnataka Puducherry, Tripura and Assam
• Participated in COVID-19 review meeting chaired by Health Minister, Mizoram to finalize modifications of entry rules to the state and related SOPs

COVID-19 vaccination
• WCO continues to support training/retraining of vaccinators and other vaccination team members
• Assisted trainings regarding COWIN-2.0 launch in Puducherry and Telangana
• Supporting assessment of private hospitals in Kerala to enroll them as COVID-19 vaccination centers
• WCO and UNICEF jointly trained more than 260 NPSP surveillance medical officers on covid-19 vaccination communication. They will be supporting states/UTs and districts in communication for covid-19 vaccination

Essential Services
• Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Chhattisgarh, Puducherry, and Tamil Nadu
• Held MR and AFP surveillance workshops and facilitated review meetings to strengthen immunization in Puducherry and Karnataka
• Supporting Assam, Karnataka, Puducherry, and Tamil Nadu in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance
• Supporting Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Telangana in planning and implementation of IMI 3.0
• Supporting Assam, Maharashtra, Puducherry, and Rajasthan in conduction of training program on Integrated Disease Surveillance Program-Integrated Health Information Platform (IDSP-IHIP)
Intra-Action Review

The Government of Uttar Pradesh has embarked on WHO guidance for conducting State COVID-19 Intra-Action Review (IAR) to understand the critical opportunities for learning and improvement to better respond to the COVID-19 outbreak in the State.

GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO Monitoring COVID-19 vaccination (LINK)
2. WHO draft landscape of observational study designs on the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccination (LINK)
3. WHO draft landscape and tracker of COVID-19 candidate vaccines (LINK)

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Registration for next phase of COVID-19 Vaccination on Co-WIN2.0 portal now open at www.cowin.gov.in (Link)
- Prime Minister takes first dose of COVID-19 vaccine (Link)
- Kerala, Maharashtra, Punjab, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Gujarat report an upsurge of new COVID-19 cases (Link)
- Cabinet Secretary reviews surge in COVID-19 cases in Telangana, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, and West Bengal (Link)
- Centre rushes multi-disciplinary high level central teams to States/UTs witnessing surge in cases (Link)
- Union Minister for Small and Medium Enterprises inaugurates COVID-19 vaccination and Aatmanirbhar Bharat awareness Campaign (Link)
- Participation of the private sector in COVID-19 vaccination is being systematically scaled up (Link)
- Union Health Secretary, and Chairman (Co-WIN) co-chair meeting regarding COVID-19 vaccination of age-appropriate groups with health secretaries of States and UTs (Link)
- India’s cumulative COVID-19 vaccination coverage has crossed 1.34 crore (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 02 March 2021, India reported 11,124,527 confirmed cases. 12,286 confirmed cases reported on 02 March 2021. Cases per million is 7,940 and a total of 157,248 deaths have been reported, details here.

Source: WCO COVID-19 Dashboard reported using MoHFW data as on 15 February 2021, 08:00 IST (GMT+5:30)
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Gavi) and WHO, as co-leads of the COVAX initiative for equitable global access to COVID-19 vaccines, alongside key delivery partner UNICEF, published COVAX’s first round of allocations, details here.

- Recognizing the central importance of sustainable oxygen supply – alongside therapeutic products such as dexamethasone – for the treatment of COVID-19, the Access to COVID Tools Accelerator Therapeutics pillar (co-led by Unitaid and Wellcome), is taking a new role to coordinate and advocate for increased supply of oxygen, in partnership with a WHO-led consortium, COVID-19 Oxygen Emergency Taskforce, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, in responding to COVID-19 and roll out of Cov19 vaccination at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.

- **COVID-19 vaccination:** The next phase of COVID-19 vaccination started for those over 60 years of age 45 and above with specified co-morbid conditions.
  
  As per the provisional report by MoHFW 25 Lakh potential beneficiaries registered on the Co-Win portal, of which 24.5 Lakh are citizens and the rest are Healthcare Workers and Frontline Workers. A total of 1,47,28,569 vaccine doses given.

  - High level oversight is being provided for vaccination sessions by WHO teams at district and state levels
  - WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.
  - WCO is tracking trainings and formation review meetings of States and district task forces and providing daily update to MOHFW on progress of vaccination.
  - WCO is also supporting counselling sessions targeting vaccine hesitancy amongst healthcare workers

- **Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance:** WCO continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 surveillance and containment activities.

  - WCO provides supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis.
  - In Uttar Pradesh, to identify ILI/SARI symptoms, a total of 31,484,005 houses have been covered and 159,487 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams
  - WCO is supporting Maharashtra with response to recent surge in COVID-19 cases

- **Essential Services:** WCO continues to support provide support for maintaining essential health services.

- **Laboratory testing:** To date, India has tested more than 217,000,000 samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. Most of the large states are ramping RTPCR tests. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.02%. A total of 759,283 tests reported on 02 March 2021, details at ICMR.
COVID-19 STATUS ACROSS STATES AND DISTRICTS

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MHA guidelines for surveillance, containment and caution States/UTs to strictly enforce them (LINK)
2. MoHFW FAQs on COVID 19 vaccine for Healthcare providers and Frontline workers (LINK)
3. MoHFW Guidelines on Preventive Measures to Contain Spread in Yoga Institutes &9 Gymnasiums (LINK)
4. MoHFW SOP on preventive measures in Hotels and other Hospitality Units (LINK)
5. MoHFW SOP on preventive measures in shopping malls (LINK)
6. MoHFW SOP on preventive measures training institutions, higher educational institutions (LINK)
7. MoHFW SOP on preventive measures in religious places/places of worship (LINK)
8. WHO Living guideline: Drugs to prevent COVID-19 (LINK)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
**HIGHLIGHTS**

- 187 cases of UK variant, 4 of South Africa variant and one Brazil variant of SARS-CoV-2 detected in the country ([Link](#))
- Multimedia exhibition van travelling to create awareness on vaccination for COVID-19 and Aatmanirbhar Bharat flagged off in Mumbai ([Link](#))
- Prime Minister addresses a workshop on “COVID-19 Management: Experience, Good Practices and Way Forward” with leaders, experts, and officials of ten neighboring countries ([Link](#))
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare appeals to the medical community and frontline workers to come forward and take the COVID-19 vaccine ([Link](#))
- Chhattisgarh Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Punjab witness a surge in daily COVID-19 cases ([Link](#))
- Centre writes to states witnessing surge and recommends an increase in proportion of RT-PCR tests, and employment of strict and comprehensive surveillance measures ([Link](#))

**INDIA SITUATION**

As of 22nd February 2021, India reported 11,016,434 confirmed cases. There was slight increase in daily cases in past week. However, 10,584 confirmed cases reported on 22nd February 2021. Cases per million is 7,863 and a total of 156,463 deaths have been reported details [here](#).

**WHO Situation Update**

- **India**
  - 11,016,434 Confirmed Cases
  - 156,463 Total Deaths
- **South East Asia Region**
  - 13,367,630 Confirmed Cases
  - 205,089 Total Deaths
- **World**
  - 111,076,123 Confirmed Cases
  - 2,463,114 Deaths

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Source: WCO COVID-19 Dashboard reported using MoHFW data as on 15 February 2021, 08:00 IST (GMT+5:30)
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO and Chubb Limited, signed an agreement on behalf of the COVAX Facility for the administration of the first and only global vaccine injury compensation mechanism, a no-fault compensation programme for the 92 low- and middle-income countries and economies eligible for support via the Gavi COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC) of the COVAX Facility, details [here](#).
- Following the first global infodemiology conference held in July 2020, WHO and partners coordinated a joint call for papers with 5 academic journals representing different scientific fields, all related to components of the science behind managing infodemics. details [here](#).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, in responding to COVID-19 and rollout of Covid19 vaccination at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.
  - WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC
- **COVID-19 vaccination:** Total of 1,14,24,094 vaccine doses have been given through 2,44,071 sessions, as per the provisional report by [MoHFW](#).
  - WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.
  - WCO is tracking trainings and formation review meetings of States and district task forces and providing daily update to MOHFW on progress of vaccination.
  - High level oversight is being provided for vaccination sessions by WHO teams at district and state levels
  - WCO is supporting counselling sessions targeting vaccine hesitancy amongst healthcare workers
- **Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance:** WCO continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 surveillance and containment activities.
  - WCO provides supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis.
  - In Uttar Pradesh, to identifyILI/SARI symptoms, a total of 31,471,162 houses have been covered and 157,881 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams
  - WCO is supporting Maharashtra with response to recent surge in COVID-19 cases
- **Essential Services:** WCO supported MoHFW in participating in the two-day Regional Web-consultation on experience sharing across Five Countries in the South-East Asia Region for continuation of essential RMNCAH services during and beyond the pandemic.
  - WCO support to strengthen VPD surveillance and routine immunization continue across the country
  - WCO supported Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance
- **Laboratory testing:** To date, India has tested more than 212,000,000 samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. Most of the large states are ramping RTPCR tests. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 1.86%. A total of 678,685 tests reported on 22nd February 2021, details at [ICMR](#).
### COVID-19 VACCINATION ACROSS STATES

![Chart showing vaccination across states](chart.png)

Source: Update on COVID-19 Vaccination- Day 38 22 FEB 2021 8:31PM by PIB Delhi

### ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW Algorithm: Standard Operating Procedure for International Arrivals (LINK)
2. WHO launches first ‘SMART Guidelines’ (LINK)
3. WHO Priority medical devices list for the COVID-19 response and associated technical specifications (LINK)
4. COVID-19 vaccine introduction and deployment costing tool (CVIC tool) (LINK)
5. Anti-interleukin-6 therapies for hospitalized patients with COVID-19: a protocol for a prospective meta-analysis of randomized trials (LINK)
6. Maintaining a safe and adequate blood supply and collecting convalescent plasma in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic (LINK)
7. Operational considerations to expedite genomic sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 GISRS surveillance (LINK)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Member, Health, NITI Aayog asserted that herd immunity against COVID-19 must be attained through vaccination and not through infection (Link)
- Distribution of second dose of COVID-19 vaccination started from February 13 for those beneficiaries who have completed 28 days after receipt of the 1st dose (Link)
- India becomes fastest country in the world to reach 70 lakh vaccinations against COVID-19 in only 26 days (Link)
- Union Health Minister distributes woolen blankets, masks, and soaps among those taking shelter in Vishram Sadan, AIIMS, New Delhi (Link)
- Chief Minister, Goa launches month long IEC campaign on COVID-19 vaccination and Atma Nirbhar Bharat (Link)
- Ministry of Railways issues statement clarifying that there is no confirmation yet that full passenger train services will in fact resume from the month of April (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 15th February 2021, India reported 10,916,589 confirmed cases. Daily cases in India continue to decline with 11,649 confirmed cases reported on 15th February 2021. Cases per million is 7,792 and a total of 155,732 deaths have been reported, details here.

Source: WCO COVID-19 Dashboard reported using MoHFW data as on 15 February 2021, 08:00 IST (GMT+5:30)
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO listed two versions of the AstraZeneca/Oxford COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use, giving the green light for these vaccines to be rolled out globally through COVAX. The vaccines are produced by AstraZeneca-SKBio (Republic of Korea) and the Serum Institute of India, details here.
- WHO Executive Board stresses need for improved response to mental health impact of public health emergencies, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, in responding to COVID-19 and rollout of Covid19 vaccination at the national, state and district level.

- Coordination: WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.
  - WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC
  - In Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, WCO attended review meetings chaired by Health Minister on COVID-19 response and vaccination
- COVID-19 vaccination: WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.
  - WCO is tracking trainings and formation review meetings of States and district task forces and providing daily update to MOHFW on progress of vaccination.
  - High level oversight is being provided for vaccination sessions by WHO teams at district and state levels
  - WCO is supporting counselling sessions targeting vaccine hesitancy amongst healthcare workers
- Risk Communication and Community Engagement: WCO released champion videos wherein influencers encouraged citizens to follow the 3Ws i.e., wearing a mask, washing hands regularly with soap, and watching distance. The overall reach of these videos is 3.01 million.
  - Together with ICMR, WCO developed a video capturing India’s efforts in increasing its testing capacity during the pandemic, video here
- Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance: WCO continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 surveillance and containment activities.
  - WCO provides supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis.
  - In Uttar Pradesh, to identify ILI/SARI symptoms, a total of 31,455,506 houses have been covered and 156,590 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams
  - WCO personnel in Maharashtra have been invited to be part of a rapid response team whose purpose is to support response in districts struggling with low testing, high CFR, high case positivity
- Laboratory testing: To date, India has tested more than 206,000,000 samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. Most of the large states are ramping RTPCR tests. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 1.67%. A total of 486,122 tests reported on 15th February 2021, details at ICMR.
COVID-19 VACCINATION ACROSS STATES

More than 85 lakh Beneficiaries Vaccinated

Source: MoHFW Press Release on Day 31 (15.02.2021), available at (LINK)

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW SOP on preventive measures to contain spread of COVID-19 in offices (LINK)
2. WHO Quality Criteria for Health National Adaptation Plans (LINK)
3. AZD1222 vaccine against COVID-19 by Oxford University and Astra Zeneca: Background paper (LINK)
4. Global COVID-19 Clinical Platform Case Report Form (CRF) for Post COVID condition (LINK)
5. WHO SAGE values framework for the allocation and prioritization of COVID 19 (LINK)

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Union Health Minister emphasizes that vaccination should not lead to complacency in following COVID appropriate behaviors, and all preventive measures should continue to be followed (Link)
- More than 58 lakh healthcare and frontline workers have been vaccinated against COVID-19 across the country (Link)
- Union Information & Broadcasting Minister launched state wide awareness campaign on COVID-19 vaccination and Atmanirbhar Bharat in Pune (Link)
- National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (NEGVAC) has been established with the aim of providing guidance on all aspects of COVID-19 vaccination (Link)
- Centre rushes high level teams to Kerala and Maharashtra to support public health interventions for COVID-19 management (Link)
- The National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) will provide training for COVID-19 vaccine administration to nurses, pharmacists, and medical and nursing students belonging to their target group (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 8 February 2021, India reported a total of 10,838,194 confirmed cases. Daily cases in India continue to decline with 148,609 active cases, 155,080 total deaths, 10,534,505 discharged as on 08.02.2021 and total vaccinations done nationwide are 58,12,362 to date, details here.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO launched free OpenWHO.org training on rehabilitation for COVID-19, details [here](#).
- WHO announced updated critical concentrations for susceptibility testing to rifampicin, whereby critical concentrations for culture-based phenotypic drug susceptibility testing (DST) to first-line anti-TB drugs have been revised and lowered while those for isoniazid have been maintained at the present level, details [here](#).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, in responding to COVID-19 and roll out of Covid19 vaccination at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.
  - WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC
  - In Kerala, WCO personnel continue to attend periodic review meetings chaired by Health Minister regarding COVID-19 response and vaccination
  - In Tamil Nadu, WCO personnel also participated in the 14th Expert Committee meeting chaired by Chief Minister on COVID-19 response and vaccination

- **COVID-19 vaccination:** WCO is tracking trainings and formation review meetings of States and district task forces and providing daily update to MOHFW on progress of vaccination.
  - High level oversight is being provided for vaccination sessions by WHO teams at district and state levels
  - 48 Rapid Response Teams have been deployed in North Eastern and other states/UTs to support COVID 19 vaccination roll out
  - WCO is supporting counselling sessions targeting vaccine hesitancy amongst healthcare workers

- **Risk communication and Community Engagement:** WCO continues to host radio programs across 10 States on COVID appropriate behaviors; with a reach of 24 million/week across public and private radio channels
  - As part of mass IEC campaign, WCO is guiding Maharashtra and Goa in identification of prominent places in the state wherein motor vans with LED display can be stationed to promote COVID appropriate behaviors and COVID-19 vaccination

- **Essential Services:** WCO together with UN Women has started the VAW Prevention Program: RESPECT Implementation Package: Pilot Roll-out in Asia Pacific. This series of 10 workshops online includes participants from MoHFW, MWCD and various stakeholders across 7 States in India.
  - Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway across the country
  - MR and AFP surveillance workshops and review meetings to strengthen immunization are also being supported across India

- **Laboratory testing:** To date, India has tested more than 201,900,614 samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 1.69%. A total of 532,236 tests were done on 7 February 2021, details at [ICMR](#).
  - WCO personnel in Chhattisgarh are supporting establishment of DPT laboratory set-up in coordination with AIIMS, Raipur
GLOBAL COVID-19 VACCINATION ROLL-OUT

![Graph showing vaccination rollout](chart)

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW Extension of validity of Standard Operating Procedure for Epidemiological Surveillance & Response for the new variant of SARS-CoV-2 in the context of regulated resumption of limited flights originating from United Kingdom (UK) to India from 8th January 2021 (LINK)
2. WHO COVAX publishes first interim distribution forecast (LINK)
3. WHO public health research agenda for managing infodemics (LINK)
4. WHO Background document on the mRNA-1273 vaccine (Moderna) against COVID-19 (LINK)
5. WHO COVID-19: Occupational health and safety for health workers (LINK)
6. Fair allocation mechanism for COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX Facility (LINK)
7. WHO SAGE values framework for the allocation and prioritization of COVID 19 (LINK)

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Union Budget 2021-22 reflects strong focus on health and well-being as Rs 35,000 Crore is allocated for COVID-19 vaccine (Link)
- Union Secretary of Health reviews status of COVID-19 vaccination with States and UTs (Link)
- More than 37 lakh healthcare workers have been vaccinated across the country since the launch of COVID-19 vaccination drive (Link)
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare chairs 23rd meeting of Group of Ministers (GOM) on COVID-19 (Link)
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare announces that COVISHIELD vaccine will also be supplied to Saudi Arabia (Link)
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare asserts that 2021 will be the year where countries have to overcome the challenge of getting COVID vaccines to people across the world who most need it (Link)
- Ministry of Home Affairs issues revised guidelines for surveillance, containment, and caution effective between 1-28 February, 2021 (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 31 January 2021, India reported 10,746,183 confirmed cases. Daily cases in India continue to decline with 13,052 confirmed cases reported on 31st January 2021. Cases per million is 7,670 and a total of 154,274 deaths have been reported, details here.

WHO Situation Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Confirmed Cases</th>
<th>Total Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>10 746 183</td>
<td>154 274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Asia Region</td>
<td>12 882 712</td>
<td>198 123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>102 083 344</td>
<td>2 209 195</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: WHO Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Dashboard as of: 01/02/2021, 6:15 AM IST
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- FIFA is teaming up with the World Health Organization (WHO) to promote the need for fair access to COVID-19 vaccines, treatments and diagnostics, and to encourage people to keep practicing life-saving, everyday public health measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus and to protect health. [Details here.]
- WHO SCORE Global Report highlights urgent need for better data to strengthen pandemic response and improve health outcomes, [Details here.]

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, in responding to COVID-19 and rollout of Covid19 vaccination at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.
  - WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC
  - In Karnataka and Kerala, WCO personnel continue to attend periodic review meetings chaired by Health Minister regarding COVID-19 response and vaccination
  - WCO facilitated state task force meeting on National Immunization Day chaired by Principal Secretary – Health in Punjab

- **COVID-19 vaccination:** WCO is tracking trainings and formation of States and district task forces through a dashboard and providing daily update to MOHFW on progress of vaccination.
  - High level oversight is being provided for vaccination sessions by WHO teams at district and state levels
  - WCO continues to support training of vaccinators and other vaccination team members across India
  - WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.
  - 29 field staff from WCO India deployed in North Eastern states to support COVID-19 vaccination roll out
  - WCO (through MOHFW) has supported training of 13 countries in preparation of vaccination

- **Risk communication and Community Engagement:** WCO has conducted radio programs across 10 States on adopting COVID appropriate behaviors; over 800 shows with a reach of 24 million/week have been completed
  - WCO supported COVID-19 RCCE outreach in 83 slums across 5 states to curb transmission during festival season; over 6 lakh people reached through WaterAid partnership
  - WCO supported development of the film showcasing innovation and self-reliance behind India’s COVID-19 testing success [Link]
  - Celebrities and influencers (Sudarshan Pattnaik, Dutee Chand, Nitibha Kaul) were engaged to amplify WCO’s video on 3Ws through social media

- **Essential Services:** Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway across India

- **Laboratory testing:** To date, India has tested more than 196,000,000 samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 1.93%. A total of 750,964 tests were done on 31 January 2021, details at [ICMR].
COVID-19 VACCINATION DOSES ADMINISTERED

![Graph showing COVID-19 vaccination doses administered worldwide as of February 1, 2021. The graph displays data for the United States, China, the United Kingdom, Israel, India, the United Arab Emirates, and Germany.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW Extension of validity of Standard Operating Procedure for Epidemiological Surveillance & Response for the new variant of SARS-CoV-2 in the context of regulated resumption of limited flights originating from the United Kingdom (UK) to India from 8th January 2021 (LINK)
2. WHO new Essential Diagnostics List and urges countries to prioritize investments in testing (LINK)
3. WHO roadmap for neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) (LINK)
4. WHO Contact tracing in the context of COVID-19 (LINK)
5. WHO Global report on health data systems and capacity, 2020 (LINK)

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**HIGHLIGHTS**

- More than 1.6 million healthcare workers have been vaccinated across the country since the launch of COVID-19 vaccination drive (Link)
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare unveils IEC campaign to address vaccine hesitancy and misinformation (Link)
- PM interacts with beneficiaries and vaccinators of COVID-19 vaccination drive in Varanasi (Link)
- COVID-19 vaccination drive commences in Andaman & Nicobar Command (Link)
- Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare rushes multi-disciplinary team to assist Lakshadweep administration in COVID-19 management (Link)
- Union Minister of Home Affairs honored Corona warriors of Delhi Police and presented ranks to policemen who were promoted out of turn in recognition of their outstanding work (Link)
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare asserts that 2020 was the Year of Science and Scientists in reference to ICMR's performance on containing COVID-19 (Link)

**INDIA SITUATION**

As of 25 January 2021, India reported 10,667,736 confirmed cases. Daily cases in India continue to decline with 13,203 confirmed cases reported on 25 January 2021. In the past 7 days, India reported 95,963 confirmed cases. Cases per million is 7,614 and a total of 153,470 deaths have been reported, details here.

**WHO Situation Update**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>98 794 942</td>
<td>2 124 193</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MoHFW data
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- Statement to the 148th Executive Board by the Chair of the Review Committee on the Functioning of the International Health Regulations (2005) during the COVID-19 Response, details [here](#).
- COVAX announced the signing of an advance purchase agreement for up to 40 million doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine; rollout to commence with successful execution of supply agreements. Additionally, COVAX announced that, pending WHO emergency use listings, nearly 150 million doses of the AstraZeneca/Oxford candidate are anticipated to be available in Q1 2021, via existing agreements with the Serum Institute of India (SII) and AstraZeneca, details [here](#).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, in responding to COVID-19 and rollout of Covid19 vaccination at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.
  - In Gujarat, Chief Minister released the first state-level Intra-Action Review (IAR) report on COVID-19 response in India as per WHO guidelines.
- **COVID19 vaccination:** WCO is tracking trainings and formation of States and district task forces through a dashboard and providing daily update to MOHFW on progress of vaccination.
  - High level oversight during vaccination is being provided by WHO teams levels
  - WCO continues to support training of vaccinators and other vaccination team members
  - WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.
  - 29 field staff from WCO India have been deployed to North Eastern states to support COVID-19 vaccination preparedness and in rolling out the vaccination
  - WCO in partnership with UNICEF in Tamil Nadu is planning physical assessment of cold chain points across the state
- **Risk communication and Community Engagement:** WCO engaged celebrities to amplify 3Ws (wear your mask, wash your hands and watch your distance) video on social media.
- **Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance:** Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in all States/UTs
  - WCO continues to provide supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis
  - In Uttar Pradesh, to identify ILI/SARI symptoms, a total of 31,358,752 houses have been covered and 152,057 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams
- **Research activities:** WCO is monitoring progress of 11 WHO Unity studies being conducted across India- study to understand risk of COVID-19 transmission among health care workers and household contacts
- **Laboratory testing:** To date, India has tested more than 192,000,000 samples. Tests includes both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 1.84%. A total of 570,246 tests were done on 25 January 2021, details at [ICMR](#).
COVID-19 VACCINATION DOSES ADMINISTERED

Source: Official data collated by Our World In Data – Last updated 26 January, 08:10 (London time)

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW Letter regarding Contraindications and Factsheet for COVID-19 vaccines (LINK)
2. WHO manual for organizing a national external quality assessment programme for health laboratories and other testing sites (LINK)
3. WHO mRNA-1273 vaccine (Moderna) against COVID-19 Background document (LINK)
5. WHO Guidance for Communities of Faith to help them discern how best to practice their beliefs while keeping their staff and congregations safe (LINK)

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HIGHLIGHTS

- India began World’s Largest Vaccination Drive on 16 January 2021 as sanitation worker becomes first recipient of the vaccine at AIIMS, New Delhi (Link)
- Union Health Minister interacts with the Health Ministers of States/UTs to review the first day of COVID-19 vaccine launch (Link)
- India becomes the number one country to vaccinate the highest number of persons on day one of nationwide vaccine launch (Link)
- Prime Minister assures that India is guided by human-centric approach in its vaccination campaign and those who need the vaccine the most will get it first (Link)
- Prime Minister asserts that Made-in-India vaccines have been approved for emergency use only after the scientists and experts were fully convinced about their safety and efficacy (Link)
- Prime Minister states that India is expressing its gratitude to frontline Corona warriors by giving them priority in vaccination (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 17 January 2021, India reported 10,571,773 confirmed cases. Daily cases in India continue to decline with 13,788 confirmed cases reported on 17th January 2021. Cases per million is 7,546 and a total of 152,419 deaths have been reported, details here.

Source: MoHFW as reported on the WHO India Country Office Dashboard
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO Emergency Committee on COVID-19 advised on variants, vaccines, details here.
- More than 2,800 scientists from 130 countries gathered on Friday (January 15) in a virtual forum hosted by the World Health Organization (WHO) to identify knowledge gaps and set research priorities for vaccines against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, in responding to COVID-19 and roll out of Covid19 vaccination at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.
- **Launch of COVID19 vaccination:** COVID-19 vaccination drive was launched on Saturday, 16 January 2021 by the Prime Minister; 3352 sessions held, and more than 200,000 beneficiaries vaccinated across the country with a coverage of 60-70% of the target achieved in first three days.
  - Vaccination drives were launched across all states except Kerala and Lakshadweep
  - WCO is tracking trainings in states through our dashboard and providing daily update to MOHFW
  - High level oversight during vaccination is provided by WHO teams at district and state levels
  - WCO has supported training of more than 260,000 vaccinators and 475,000 other vaccination team members
  - WCO supported monitoring of more than 1500 COVID-19 vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.
  - 29 WHO medical officers deployed in North Eastern states are supporting COVID-19 vaccination preparedness and roll out
  - WCO is Supporting Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Puducherry in updating the AEFI committees and providing technical support to the same
  - WCO is also supporting (through MOHFW) training of neighboring countries in preparation of vaccination
- **Leadership and coordination:** WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC. WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry.
- **Laboratory testing:** To date, India has tested more than 187,000,000 samples. Tests includes both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.01%.
  - WHO supported ICMR and SCOPE (pregnancy) study centers with 250,000 RT-PCR kits to support ongoing research.
  - A total of 548,168 tests were done on 17 January 2021, details ICMR.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Active Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>632,183</td>
<td>15,687</td>
<td>11,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td>394,495</td>
<td>9,684</td>
<td>10,738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>381,661</td>
<td>9,546</td>
<td>5,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>302,726</td>
<td>7,454</td>
<td>4,359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>204,089</td>
<td>6,966</td>
<td>4,062</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>111,785</td>
<td>6,189</td>
<td>2,989</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>126,571</td>
<td>5,658</td>
<td>2,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>124,055</td>
<td>5,493</td>
<td>2,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 2A</td>
<td>120,128</td>
<td>5,320</td>
<td>2,277</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>118,825</td>
<td>4,035</td>
<td>1,963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malappur</td>
<td>98,950</td>
<td>4,191</td>
<td>1,802</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ernakulam</td>
<td>95,422</td>
<td>4,554</td>
<td>1,794</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kochi</td>
<td>95,193</td>
<td>4,396</td>
<td>1,776</td>
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<tr>
<td>West</td>
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<td>1,669</td>
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<td>Thrissur</td>
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<td>86,733</td>
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<td>Thrissur</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagar</td>
<td>79,263</td>
<td>2,476</td>
<td>1,069</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison  Data Source: MOHFW & State’s bulletins, as of 17/01/2021

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. Investigation of novel SARS-CoV-2 variant: Variant of Concern 202012/01: Technical briefing document on novel SARS-CoV-2 variant (LINK)

2. WHO Guidelines on Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): Schools including checklist to support schools reopening and preparation for COVID-19 resurgences or similar public health crises (LINK)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Union Health Secretary assures that Government of India will proactively help countries who may want to use CO-WIN Vaccination Management System (Link)
- Mock drill on COVID-19 vaccine administration conducted in all States and UTs on 8 January 2021 (Link)
- Centre rushes high level team to Kerala to support the State in public health interventions in COVID-19 management given recent surge in cases (Link)
- Union Minister of Health requests all State Health Ministers to personally keep tab on disinformation regarding the approved vaccines so as to avoid derailment of the vaccination exercise (Link)
- Union Health Secretary urges Maharashtra, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, and West Bengal to take prompt steps and to keep a ‘strict vigil’ to curb recent spike in COVID cases (Link)
- The Government of Japan has committed Official Development Assistance loan of approx. Rs. 2000 crores to support India's efforts at providing social assistance to the poor and vulnerable households, severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic (Link)
- Prime Minister reviews status of COVID-19 and preparedness for COVID-19 vaccination (Link)
- Centre guides States/UTs on Co-WIN management as India gears up for COVID-19 vaccine roll out (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As on 10 January 2021, India reported 10,466,595 confirmed cases. Daily cases in India continue to decline with 16,504 confirmed cases reported on 11th January 2021. Cases per million is 7,471 and a total of 151,160 deaths have been reported, details here.

Source: MoHFW as reported on the WHO India Country Office Dashboard
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- Global scientists double down on SARS-CoV-2 variants research at WHO-hosted forum, details here.
- UNICEF, WHO, IFRC and MSF announce the establishment of a global Ebola vaccine stockpile, details here.
- WHO publishes a series of case studies on the implementation of the Chemicals Road Map, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, in responding to COVID-19 and preparations for covid19 vaccination at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.
- **Readiness for COVID-19 vaccination:** WCO is supporting MOHFW and states in preparation and roll out of COVID19 vaccination.
  - GOI announced that COVID vaccination will be launched on 16 Jan 2021. WCO is providing strategic technical support to MOHFW and states in preparation and roll out of COVID19 vaccination
  - WCO is tracking trainings in states through our dashboard and providing daily update to MOHFW
  - WCO teams in states have supported COVID vaccination dry run in Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Chandigarh UT, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Manipur, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, and West Bengal
  - WCO is supporting Chhattisgarh in drafting state specific policy regarding biomedical waste management at vaccination session site
  - On the request of MOHFW, WCO is deploying 29 medical officers to North East states from 12 Jan to support COVID vaccination preparedness assessment, support in addressing gaps and in rolling out the vaccination.
- **Leadership and coordination:** WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC. WCO also participated in review meeting chaired by Health Minister, Karnataka regarding COVID-19 response and vaccination.
- **Risk communication and Community Engagement:** WCO is supporting radio campaign on COVID appropriate behaviors
  - WCO is working with IIPH, Gandhinagar and IIM, Ahmedabad in Gujarat on the state’s Intra -Action Review (IAR)
- **Laboratory testing:** To date, India has tested more than 181,000,000 samples. Tests includes both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.08%. A total of 659,209 tests were done on 10 January 2021, details ICMR.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Active Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>629,001</td>
<td>10,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td>392,128</td>
<td>8,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>377,904</td>
<td>7,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>298,235</td>
<td>6,979</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>271,575</td>
<td>5,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>129,210</td>
<td>5,609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>125,295</td>
<td>5,559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>123,913</td>
<td>5,170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24</td>
<td>118,788</td>
<td>4,991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>117,910</td>
<td>4,919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manipur</td>
<td>95,039</td>
<td>4,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>94,049</td>
<td>4,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kochi</td>
<td>91,012</td>
<td>3,973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ernakulam</td>
<td>90,014</td>
<td>3,864</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chittoor</td>
<td>86,553</td>
<td>3,838</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thrissur</td>
<td>84,823</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ludhiana</td>
<td>79,160</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirunelveli</td>
<td>78,466</td>
<td>2,816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guntur</td>
<td>75,683</td>
<td>2,763</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison  Data Source: MOHFW & State’s bulletin, as of 10/01/2021

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW Letter on COVID-19 Vaccination  [LINK]
2. WHO Infection prevention and control (IPC) principles and procedures for COVID-19 vaccination activities  [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India asserts that vaccines which are in the pipeline will work against the new variants of SARS-CoV-2 ([Link](#)).
- Consortium of 10 government labs release initial results of Genome sequencing of mutant variant of SARS-CoV-2 ([Link](#)).
- Health Ministry recommends extension of temporary suspension of international flights from the UK to India till 7 Jan 2021 ([Link](#)).
- Centre asks States/UTs to gear up for roll out of COVID-19 vaccine ([Link](#)).
- Union Health Minister chairs meeting to review preparedness at COVID-19 vaccination sites for trial run in Delhi and emphasizes need for effective collaboration between administration and medical officers ([Link](#)).
- COVID-19 vaccine dry run held successfully across India ([Link](#)).
- Union Home Minister hailed approval granted by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) to the COVID-19 vaccines of the Serum Institute of India (SII) and Bharat Biotech ([Link](#)).

**INDIA SITUATION**

As of 4 January 2021, India reported 10,340,469 confirmed cases. After a slight increase in daily cases in the past few days, a recent decline has again been witnessed. After 2nd July 2020, daily cases reported currently is less than twenty thousand. 16,504 confirmed cases reported on 3rd January 2021. Cases per million is 7,381. Total deaths reported 149,649, details [here](#).
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO Director-General's opening remarks at the media briefing on COVID-19 – 5 January 2021, details here.
  - Following the Emergency Use Listing last week, the SAGE group met today to discuss policy recommendations for the use of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine.
  - Over the past 24 hours, members of the international scientific team on COVID-19 virus origins began traveling from their home countries to China. WHO is eager to get the mission underway as soon as possible.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, in responding to COVID-19 and preparation of covid19 vaccination at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level. WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC

- **Readiness for COVID19 vaccination:** WCO is supporting MoHFW and states in preparation and roll out of COVID19 vaccination.
  - WCO teams in states are supporting COVID vaccination dry run in Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh UT, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, and Punjab
  - WCO supported MOHFW in for tracking trainings in states
  - WCO is modifying the AEFI capturing software SafeVac to directly capture any adverse events following COVID vaccination with Covid Vaccine Intelligence Network (CoWIN) for managing adverse events following covid19 vaccination
  - WCO is supporting in setting up communications war room at MOHFW and have deployed one technical officer
  - WCO is facilitating ToT roll out of COVID vaccination in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Chandigarh UT, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, Tamil Nadu
  - WCO field personnel provided strategic technical support in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Chandigarh UT, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh for preparing for COVID-19 vaccination
  - WCO is supporting State and District Task Force for Immunization for COVID-19 in Delhi, Kerala, Rajasthan, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Tripura

- **Laboratory testing:** To date, India has tested more than 175,000,000 samples. This includes both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 1.97%. A total of 735,798 tests were done on 3 January 2021, details ICMR.
SUMMARY OF COVID-19 SUPPORT IN 2020

Recap: COVID preparedness, response and health system capacity building

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW Guidelines for international arrivals (in supersession of guidelines issued on the subject dated 24th May 2020) (to be operational from 00.01 Hrs, 8th August 2020) [LINK]
2. MoHFW Standard Operating Procedure for Epidemiological Surveillance & Response for the new variant of SARS-CoV-2 in the context of regulated resumption of limited flights originating from United Kingdom (UK) to India from 8th January, 2021 [LINK]
3. MoHFW Series on COVID-19 Vaccines [LINK]

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WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- National Task Force on COVID-19 strategizes testing, treatment, and surveillance for COVID-19 in view of the new virus strain from UK (Link)
- Central Government gears up for roll out of COVID-19 vaccine with dry run for vaccine administration scheduled in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, and Punjab (Link)
- Ministry of Health issued Standard Operating Procedure for Epidemiological Surveillance and Response in the context of new variant of SARS-CoV-2 virus detected in United Kingdom (Link)
- Member, NITI Aayog asks citizens to not panic about the mutant coronavirus found in the UK as no such mutation has been found in the country so far (Link)
- Senior Principal Scientist at CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology emphasizes that serosurvey will be helpful in prioritizing candidates for vaccination (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 28 December India, reported 10,207,871 confirmed cases. Daily cases have been declining, with 20,021 confirmed cases reported on 28 December 2020. Cases per million is 7,286 and a total of 147,901 deaths have been reported, details here.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO issues its first emergency use validation for a COVID-19 vaccine and emphasizes need for equitable global access, details here.
- WHO issued guideline on ensuring balanced national policies for access and safe use of controlled medicines, details here.
- WHO released Joint statement calling for urgent country scale-up of access to optimal HIV treatment for infants and children living with HIV, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level. WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC.
- **Readiness for COVID-19 vaccination:** WCO is supporting MOHFW and states in preparation and roll out of COVID-19 vaccination.
  - MoHFW released operational guidelines for COVID vaccination, WHO worked closely with MOHFW in the development of the guidelines together with partners.
  - MOHFW plans for end-to-end dry run for COVID vaccination underway. WCO has been requested to support dry run in Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Gujarat to start with.
  - WCO has been also requested to draft vaccination preparedness checklist, which has been shared with the MoHFW for review.
  - WCO is tracking trainings in states and providing daily update to MoHFW.
  - WCO modified the AEFI capturing software SafeVac to directly capture any adverse events following COVID vaccination with Covid Vaccine Intelligence Network (CoWIN) for managing adverse events following covid19 vaccination.
  - WCO is supporting MOHFW in developing communications guidelines for COVID vaccination along with UNICEF.
- **Essential Health Services:** WHO completed the training of National Adolescent Health Councellors in 7 States to provide psycho-social services to adolescents and young people during the pandemic.
- **Risk Communication:** WHO supported Radio Programming across several States in India to encourage public participation in COVID appropriate behaviours.
- **Laboratory testing:** India has tested more than 168 million samples. This includes both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.30%. Test positivity rate has remained less than 5% for the last two months. India has strengthened its daily testing capacity, with 715,397 tests done on 28 December, details ICMR.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Active Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>622,094</td>
<td>16,538</td>
<td>10,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td>386,057</td>
<td>10,537</td>
<td>7,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>370,049</td>
<td>8,795</td>
<td>5,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>290,336</td>
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<td>232,029</td>
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<td>Chennai</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nagpur</td>
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<tr>
<td>East</td>
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<td>1,875</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>121,912</td>
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<td>1,765</td>
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<tr>
<td>North 24</td>
<td>115,195</td>
<td>5,692</td>
<td>1,748</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>113,630</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wardha</td>
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<td>Malappurm</td>
<td>88,394</td>
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<td>Chittoor</td>
<td>85,831</td>
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<td>Kollam</td>
<td>83,836</td>
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<td>Ernakulam</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrissur</td>
<td>72,242</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,312</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison  Data Source: MOHFW & State's bulletins, as of 27/12/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW COVID-19 Communications Strategy (LINK)
3. MoHFW Guidelines for domestic travel (air/train/inter-state bus travel) (LINK)
4. MoHFW Guidelines for international arrivals (LINK)
5. WHO Rational use of personal protective equipment for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and considerations during severe shortages (LINK)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 I Email: wriindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Union Health Minister chairs 22nd meeting of group of ministers on COVID-19 (Link)
- Senior Principal Scientist at CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology emphasizes that sero-survey will be helpful in prioritizing candidates for vaccination (Link)
- Union Health Minister emphasizes that the nation has effectively repurposed capacities from multiple research disciplines across a wide range of public and private institutions to efficiently fight COVID-19 (Link)
- Government of India and New Development Bank sign a loan agreement for $1 billion to support India’s economic recovery from COVID-19 (Link)
- Member, NITI Aayog calls for building on standard principles of addressing Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) and making it specific to the requirements of the upcoming COVID-19 vaccine (Link)
- India’s recovery rate is now one of the highest in the world after crossing 95% (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 21 December India, reported 10,055,560 confirmed cases. Daily cases are declining, with less than thirty thousand cases reported since last few days- 24,337 cases reported, cases per million is 7,178, total deaths reported 145,810, details here.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO and YouTube have partnered on public service announcement (PSA) to help battle COVID-19 fatigue as we head into the holiday season, details [here](#).
- To mark the end of the Year of the Nurse and Midwife, WHO unveiled the 2020 List of 100+ Outstanding Women Nurses and Midwives, featuring the achievements and contributions of nurses and midwives from 43 countries and across 6 global regions, details [here](#).
- The Behavioral Insights Unit of the WHO released a meeting report of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on the special session on acceptance and uptake of COVID-19 vaccines, details [here](#).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination**: WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level. WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC.
- **Readiness for COVID19 vaccination**: WCO is supporting MOHFW and states in preparation and roll out of COVID19 vaccination including supporting MoHFW in drafting the operational guidelines for COVID vaccination and technical inputs to the communications strategy.
  - WHO supported MOHFW in planning for end-to-end dry run for COVID vaccination. On the request of Ministry WCO SOP for dry run was drafted and is under review.
  - WCO has been requested to support dry run in Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat.
  - WCO has been also requested to draft vaccination preparedness checklist, draft shared with the MOHFW.
  - WCO is also supporting trainings in States and providing daily update to MOHFW on formation of task forces and medical college training for vaccine roll-out.
  - WCO has supported development of training module for different categories of health workers including two training videos on vaccination sessions. WCO supported national level TOT on 9 and 10 December
  - WCO is modifying the AEFI capturing software SafeVac to directly capture any adverse events following COVID vaccination with Covid Vaccine Intelligence Network (CoWIN) for managing adverse events following covid19 vaccination
  - WCO is supporting MOHFW in developing communications guidelines for COVID vaccination along with UNICEF.
  - WCO is facilitating ToT roll out of COVID vaccination in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Chandigarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Puducherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana
- **Laboratory testing**: To date, India has tested more than 162,098,329 samples. This includes both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.29% while daily tests continues to remain high around 1 million tests per day. On 20 December 900,134 tests were done, details [ICMR](#).
## SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

### Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Active Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>615,914</td>
<td>17,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru:</td>
<td>367,269</td>
<td>10,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>366,319</td>
<td>10,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>286,764</td>
<td>9,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>265,883</td>
<td>7,989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>221,937</td>
<td>7,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>123,162</td>
<td>7,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24</td>
<td>112,732</td>
<td>6,044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>112,126</td>
<td>5,981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucknow</td>
<td>76,276</td>
<td>5,431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ernakulam</td>
<td>75,104</td>
<td>5,339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>74,228</td>
<td>5,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thiruvananthapuram</td>
<td>73,114</td>
<td>4,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathanamthitta</td>
<td>70,670</td>
<td>4,412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alappuzha</td>
<td>69,648</td>
<td>4,412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 25 Parganas</td>
<td>68,922</td>
<td>3,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kannur</td>
<td>68,922</td>
<td>3,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrissur</td>
<td>68,922</td>
<td>3,433</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison  Data Source: MoHFW & State’s bulletin, as of 20/12/2020*

### ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MHA Standard Operating Procedure for Passenger Movement post-Disembarkation ([LINK](#))
2. MoHFW Travel Advisory for UK Variant Strain ([LINK](#))
3. COVAX COVID-19 vaccine candidates; plans global rollout starting Q1 2021 ([LINK](#))
4. WHO Baseline report for Decade of Healthy Ageing ([LINK](#))

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline [here](#).
WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Union Minister of Health assures that India is on the forefront of developing COVID-19 vaccines (Link)
- Approximately 300 million line-listed for COVID-19 vaccination, including healthcare, frontline workers and prioritized population groups (Link)
- Union Minister of Health assures that eight vaccine candidates including three indigenous ones are scheduled to be manufactured in India (Link)
- Union Minister of Education interacted with teachers, parents and students and urged students to continue their studies while adhering to all the precautions and guidelines on COVID-19 (Link)
- Union Minister of Health chaired event marking Universal Health Coverage Day and emphasized the role COVID-19 has played in highlighting the need to build resilient healthcare systems ensuring equitable access to all (Link)
- Union Minister of Minority Affairs stated that short films in India are playing a critical role in conveying awareness regarding COVID-19 and disseminating strong messages about its challenges (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 14 December, India reported 9,884,100 confirmed cases. Past few days saw a slight increase in daily cases, which are now again declining. After more than 3 months, less than thirty thousand cases were reported on 13 December (27,071). Cases per million is 7,055. Total deaths reported 143,355, details here.

Source: MoHFW as reported on the WHO India Country Office Dashboard
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• World’s largest youth organizations, representing 250 million members, and WHO launch global mobilization to respond to disruptive impacts of COVID-19 on young people, details here.
• WHO and HRP launch the Labour Care Guide to improve every woman’s experience of childbirth, and to help ensure the health and well-being of women and their babies, details here.
• WHO Global TB Programme, along with WHO regional and country offices, has developed an information note, in collaboration with stakeholders, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level. WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC.
- **Readiness for COVID19 vaccination:** At the national and state levels, WCO is supporting MOHFW in preparation for COVID19 vaccination. WCO prepared concept note and white paper for introduction of COVID19 vaccination. WCO is working closely with the national government to prepare operational guidelines for programme managers, FAQs for health workers, and communities and handbook for health workers.
  - WCO has been supporting the development of training module for different categories of health workers. Included in the modules are two training videos on vaccination sessions – planning of session site and vaccination of beneficiaries that were prepared by WCO last week.
  - WCO is modifying the AEFI capturing software SafeVac to directly capture any adverse events following COVID vaccination with Covid Vaccine Intelligence Network (CoWIN) for managing adverse events following covid19 vaccination.
  - WCO is facilitating ToT programs on roll out of COVID vaccination in Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh, Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, and Punjab.
  - WCO field personnel provided strategic technical support in Assam, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh for preparing for COVID-19 vaccination.
  - At Chief Secretary, Telangana’s behest, WCO shared analysis on cold chain equipment data and status across all PHCs for the upcoming COVID-19 vaccination.
- **Risk communication and Community Engagement:** WCO is supporting radio campaign on COVID appropriate behaviors in 5 districts of Punjab.
- **Essential Health Services:** WHO India convened the meeting of the 1st National Reproductive Health Technical Advisory Group (RH-TAG) under the chairpersonship of AS&MD, NHM and 15 leading national experts.
- **Laboratory testing:** India tested 15,45,66,990 cumulative samples and 88,55,157 samples were tested on 13 December, reported by ICMR.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Active Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>635,470</td>
<td>17,313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru Urban</td>
<td>377,857</td>
<td>16,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>233,674</td>
<td>13,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>290,030</td>
<td>12,902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>247,212</td>
<td>12,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>219,526</td>
<td>7,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>172,947</td>
<td>7,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>115,574</td>
<td>7,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kochi</td>
<td>110,998</td>
<td>7,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>109,598</td>
<td>7,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24</td>
<td>109,070</td>
<td>7,273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>93,286</td>
<td>7,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor</td>
<td>64,742</td>
<td>5,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahara...</td>
<td>53,019</td>
<td>5,529</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thiruvanan...</td>
<td>75,920</td>
<td>5,518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kozhikode</td>
<td>75,863</td>
<td>5,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trivandrum</td>
<td>74,815</td>
<td>4,873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indore</td>
<td>72,875</td>
<td>4,779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24 Pargans</td>
<td>66,070</td>
<td>4,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agra</td>
<td>59,989</td>
<td>3,594</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>51,229</td>
<td>3,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolhapur</td>
<td>50,190</td>
<td>3,190</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison*  Data Source: MOHFW & State's bulletins, as of 13/12/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO Public health considerations for elections and related activities in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic (LINK)
2. WHO Evidence to recommendations for COVID-19 vaccines: Evidence framework (LINK)
3. WHO COVID-19 vaccine introduction and deployment costing tool (LINK)
4. WHO Checklist to support schools re-opening and preparation for COVID-19 resurgences or similar public health crises (LINK)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Prime Minister holds all party meeting to discuss COVID-19 vaccination strategy ([Link](#))
- Prime Minister interacted with Institutes working on developing & manufacturing COVID-19 vaccine ([Link](#))
- Mission COVID Suraksha launched by the Government of India to accelerate Indian COVID-19 Vaccine Development ([Link](#))
- Experts at NITI Aayog and Ministry of Science and Technology highlight how the Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy, 2020 can help country become future-ready & face situations like COVID-19 ([Link](#))
- Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports highlights work done by Indian youth volunteers during COVID-19 while addressing BRICS Youth Summit ([Link](#))
- Minister of Health emphasizes that countries can no longer work in silos and global synergies must be created in view of post-COVID health collaboration ([Link](#))

**INDIA SITUATION**

As of 7 December, India reported 9,677,203 confirmed cases. Past few days saw a slight increase in daily cases, which are now again declining. On 7 December 32,981 confirmed cases were reported and in the past week 245,512 cases have been reported. Cases per million is 6,908. Total deaths reported 140,573, details [here](#).

Source: MoHFW as reported on the WHO India Country Office Dashboard
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• Global equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines estimated to generate economic benefits of at least US$ 153 billion in 2020–21, and US$ 466 billion by 2025, in 10 major economies, according to new report by the Eurasia Group, details here.
• WHO launches year-long campaign to help 100 million people quit tobacco, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.
• Coordination: WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry.
• Vaccine Preparation: Series of trainings and capacity building workshops for vaccine roll-out has been conducted with WHO, UNICEF, UNDP partner together with MoHFW.
  – WCO is providing strategic technical support in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Chandigarh, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, and Kerala for preparing for COVID-19 vaccination
• Contact Tracing, Containment: Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Chhattisgarh, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh.
  – In Uttar Pradesh, to identify ILI/SARI symptoms, a total of 3,00,33,652 houses have been covered and 122,754 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams
• Risk Communication and Community Engagement: WCO developed risk communication package consisting of a video and few GIFs focusing on the need to follow COVID appropriate behaviors during the wedding season.
  – Supporting radio campaign on COVID appropriate behaviors across the country
• Infection Prevention and Control and Hospital Preparedness: Providing supportive supervision and on-the-job training to medical officers working in fever clinics in Maharashtra
• Research and Development: WCO is supporting 11 Unity Studies and 20 high-burden facilities on standardizing COVID and pregnancy care SCOPE Study.
• Information and Planning: WHO is supporting Kerala, Telangana and Tamil Nadu in preparation of database for health care workers for COVID-19 vaccination Supporting Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana in preparation of database for health care workers for COVID-19 vaccination
  – Supporting test run of Co-WIN software in Telangana in collaboration with UNDP
• Laboratory testing: India tested 14,77,87,656 cumulative samples and 8,01,081 samples were tested on 06 November, reported by ICMR.
  – Total Operational Laboratories reporting to ICMR include Government labs: 1190 and Private labs: 1136
  – WCO continues to review testing strategy, number of samples tested and test positivity rate in states and share feedback on strengthening testing strategy.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Active Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>593,544</td>
<td>26,678</td>
<td>10,364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru Urban</td>
<td>378,291</td>
<td>15,185</td>
<td>9,574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>357,289</td>
<td>18,723</td>
<td>7,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>385,267</td>
<td>14,048</td>
<td>5,347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>243,768</td>
<td>9,225</td>
<td>4,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>112,737</td>
<td>7,995</td>
<td>3,868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>107,207</td>
<td>7,572</td>
<td>3,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24 Parganas</td>
<td>104,650</td>
<td>7,161</td>
<td>2,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>92,880</td>
<td>6,322</td>
<td>2,109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chittoor</td>
<td>84,161</td>
<td>5,906</td>
<td>1,743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malappur</td>
<td>76,327</td>
<td>5,859</td>
<td>1,723</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrissur</td>
<td>73,925</td>
<td>5,290</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guwahati</td>
<td>74,783</td>
<td>5,176</td>
<td>1,685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ludhiana</td>
<td>73,101</td>
<td>5,144</td>
<td>1,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kozhikode</td>
<td>71,845</td>
<td>5,101</td>
<td>1,449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ernakulam</td>
<td>68,103</td>
<td>4,942</td>
<td>1,241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alappuzha</td>
<td>66,825</td>
<td>4,676</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrissuramputtam</td>
<td>3,880</td>
<td>1,024</td>
<td>1,024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison*  Data Source: MOHFW & State's bulletins, as of 06/12/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO Feasibility, Potential Value and Limitations of Establishing a Closely Monitored Challenge Model of Experimental COVID-19 Infection and Illness in Healthy Young Adult Volunteers [LINK]
2. WHO Guidance for implementing non pharmacological public health measures in populations in situations of vulnerability in the context of COVID-19 (PAHO- WHO, 1 December) [LINK]
3. Mask use in the context of COVID-19 [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Ministry of Home Affairs issues revised guidelines for surveillance, containment and caution (Link)
- Prime Minister chairs high level meeting with Chief Ministers of Haryana, Delhi, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, and West Bengal to review status and preparedness of COVID-19 response and management (Link)
- Prime Minister reviewed preparedness of COVID-19 vaccine delivery, distribution, and administration (Link)
- Union Health Minister calls for continued focus on the goal to eliminate TB by 2025 through advocacy and engagement especially at a time when COVID-19 is taking prioritized attention (Link)
- Minister of Health ensures that the COVIN portal and network will assure last mile vaccine delivery (Link)
- Union Health Minister calls upon young scientists from Shanghai Cooperation Organization to collaborate to develop solutions for COVID-19 and common societal challenges (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 30 November, India reported 9,431,691 confirmed cases. Past few days saw a slight increase in daily cases, which are now again declining. 38,772 confirmed cases were reported while 291,826 cases were reported in the past week alone with is 6,732 cases per million. There were 137,139 total deaths reported, details here.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- United Nations, IOM, ITU, OCHA, OHCHR, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS, UPU, UN Volunteers, UN Women, WFP and WHO support the adoption of the following joint statement, in line with the UN Personal Data Protection and Privacy Principles adopted by the UN System Organizations to support its use of data and technology in the COVID-19 response in a way that respects the right to privacy and other human rights and promotes economic and social development, details here.

- WHO has prepared Draft landscape of COVID-19 candidate vaccines, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- Coordination: WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.

- Vaccine Preparation: On behalf of UNCT, WHO presented the vaccine preparation and support plan to the task force on vaccine conducted by NITI Ayog. WHO is also supporting the preparation of vaccine roll-out as well as developing software for capturing adverse events following vaccination.
  - WCO is providing strategic technical support in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh for preparing for COVID-19 vaccination

- Contact Tracing, Containment: WCO providing supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis.

- ILI Surveillance: In Uttar Pradesh, to identify ILI/SARI symptoms, a total of 2,96,77,426 houses have been covered and 118,020 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams

- Risk Communication and Community Engagement: WCO is working with IIPH, Gandhinagar and IIM, Ahmedabad in Gujarat on the state’s Intra-Action Review (IAR). WHO is also working on creating films/videos on vaccine awareness and other related topics.

- Infection Prevention and Control and Hospital Preparedness: WCO supported the Antimicrobial resistance (AMR or AR) awareness week. WHO partnered with CSIR to launch a game on AMR.

- Research and Development: WCO is supporting 11 Unity Studies and 20 high-burden facilities on standardizing COVID and pregnancy care SCOPE Study.

- Information and Planning: WHO is supporting Kerala, Telangana and Tamil Nadu in preparation of database for health care workers for COVID-19 vaccination

- Laboratory testing: India tested 14,13,49,298 cumulative samples and 9,69,322 samples were tested on 30 November, reported by ICMR.
  - Total Operational Laboratories reporting to ICMR include Government labs: 1176 and Private labs: 994
  - WCO continues to review testing strategy, number of samples tested and test positivity rate in states and share feedback on strengthening testing strategy.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Active Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>561,742</td>
<td>44,578</td>
<td>10,847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td>358,604</td>
<td>19,899</td>
<td>7,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>351,784</td>
<td>18,366</td>
<td>5,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>283,881</td>
<td>16,066</td>
<td>4,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>259,598</td>
<td>14,979</td>
<td>2,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>234,577</td>
<td>7,737</td>
<td>2,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>122,208</td>
<td>7,339</td>
<td>2,036</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>113,236</td>
<td>6,843</td>
<td>1,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>105,171</td>
<td>6,559</td>
<td>1,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>104,314</td>
<td>6,367</td>
<td>1,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24 Parganas</td>
<td>99,331</td>
<td>6,349</td>
<td>1,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alappuzha</td>
<td>81,579</td>
<td>6,117</td>
<td>1,653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thiruvananthapuram</td>
<td>73,413</td>
<td>5,988</td>
<td>1,645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucknow</td>
<td>71,125</td>
<td>5,416</td>
<td>1,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malappur</td>
<td>70,710</td>
<td>5,402</td>
<td>1,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kollam</td>
<td>67,295</td>
<td>4,616</td>
<td>1,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alappuzha</td>
<td>66,654</td>
<td>4,457</td>
<td>1,069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ernakulam</td>
<td>64,446</td>
<td>4,402</td>
<td>997</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison  Data Source: MOHFW & State’s bulletins, as of 29/11/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW SOP on preventive measures in markets to contain spread of COVID-19 [LINK]
2. NITI Aayog released ‘Mitigation and Management of COVID-19: Practices from India’s States & UTs’ (Link)
3. WHO Guidelines on physical activity and sedentary behaviour: [LINK]
4. WHO World Malaria Report 2020 [LINK]
5. WHO Evidence to recommendations: COVID-19 mitigation in the aviation sector [LINK]
6. WHO Joint Report FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Centre advises States/UTs to increase testing levels to track the undetected and missed out patients (Link)
- MoHFW approves new category of ‘Wards of COVID Warriors’ under central pool of MBBS/BDS seats, for selection and nomination of candidates in the academic year 2020-21 (Link)
- Union Minister for Health showcased steps taken by India to protect gains in HIV prevention during COVID-19 pandemic at the Global Prevention Coalition (GPC) for HIV Prevention (Link)
- Low Mortality Rate does not mean we can risk the lives of others, cautioned NITI Aayog, while urging people to get tested in case of symptoms (Link)
- Minister of Health called for engendering in the health workforce, a desire to make a real difference in the post-COVID world (Link)
- Dr Harsh Vardhan chaired 147th session of WHO Executive Board and highlighted global partnerships and investment in global public health for strengthening health systems (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As on 23 November, India reported 9,139,865 confirmed cases. Cases per million is 6,524. Total deaths reported 133,738, test positivity (7DMA) is 4.28 with 4,912 tests per million per week, details here.

Source: MoHFW as reported on the WHO India Country Office Dashboard
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO and other UN agencies issued a Joint Statement on Data Protection and Privacy in the COVID-19 Response, calling for the use of data and technology in the COVID-19 response in a way that respects the right to privacy under international law, details [here](#).
- In his opening remarks at the Member States briefing on COVID-19, WHO Director-General Dr Tedros thanked Member States for their continued solidarity in the response to COVID-19 and for the successful 73rd session of the World Health Assembly conducted virtually, details [here](#).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.
- **Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance:** Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities and continues to provide supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis
  - In **Uttar Pradesh**, to identify ILI/SARI symptoms, a total of 2,91,71,612 houses have been covered and 111,230 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams
- **Infection Prevention and Control:** WHO is advocating for increasing number of ICU beds in high burden districts in **Uttar Pradesh**
  - In **Karnataka**, WCO officers are members of District Expert committee and continue to support in assessing hospital preparedness and adherence to SOPs
  - Reorientation training was completed for PHC/UPHC staff in all 33 districts in **Telangana** and continues to support assessment of PHCs and COVID hospitals
- **Essential Services:** Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in **Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Puducherry, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra**
- **Vaccine preparation:** WCO is providing strategic technical support in **Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Madhya Pradesh** for preparing for COVID-19 vaccination
- **Research and Development:** WCO is supporting field work related to primary immunodeficiency disorder (PID) study in **Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu**
  - WHO CCs training and consultation was done for data collection and analysis plan for the WHO SCOPE study on standardising COVID outcomes reporting during pregnancy.
- **Laboratory testing:** India tested 132,582,730 were tested on 23 November, reported by [ICMR](#).
  - WCO continues to review testing strategy, number of samples tested and test positivity rate in states and share feedback on strengthening testing strategy.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Active Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>523,117</td>
<td>39,741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru Urban</td>
<td>362,626</td>
<td>17,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>365,643</td>
<td>17,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>274,579</td>
<td>14,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>213,555</td>
<td>12,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>121,490</td>
<td>9,208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>110,481</td>
<td>7,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>102,164</td>
<td>7,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>99,080</td>
<td>7,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kollata</td>
<td>93,417</td>
<td>6,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24</td>
<td>91,433</td>
<td>6,747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>82,964</td>
<td>6,747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chitwood</td>
<td>71,807</td>
<td>6,698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guant</td>
<td>68,993</td>
<td>6,586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thiruvan</td>
<td>68,783</td>
<td>6,268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anantapur</td>
<td>66,428</td>
<td>5,368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malappur</td>
<td>65,364</td>
<td>5,241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kozhikode</td>
<td>62,981</td>
<td>5,165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raigad</td>
<td>61,923</td>
<td>4,735</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison  Data Source: MoHFW & State’s bulletins, as of 22/11/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW Instructions to all major and minor ports for dealing with COVID-19 pandemic (Link)
2. WHO Guidance on developing a national deployment and vaccination plan for COVID-19 vaccines (Link)
3. WHO Maintaining surveillance of influenza and monitoring SARS-CoV-2 – adapting Global Influenza surveillance and Response System (GISRS) and sentinel systems during the COVID-19 pandemic (Link)
4. WHO Diagnostics, therapeutics, vaccine readiness, and other health products for COVID-19 (Link)
5. NITI Aayog released ‘Mitigation and Management of COVID-19: Practices from India’s States & UTs’ (Link)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline here. WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- PM calls for observing restraint during the festival season considering the pandemic (Link)
- MoHFW has a plan to ensure that vaccines will be available to all priority population groups, irrespective of the region (Link)
- Secretary, DST shared that lessons learned during COVID-19 are being incorporated in the upcoming Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2020 (Link)
- Union Minister of Culture visits national museum to review preparations regarding re-opening of museums, art galleries and exhibitions from 10 November (Link)
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare reviewed COVID and public health measures with health ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab, Telangana, Rajasthan, and West Bengal (Link)
- Union Minister for Minority Affairs issued Haj 2021 guidelines in light of the COVID-19 pandemic (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 17 November 2020, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI has reported 453,401 active cases 829,037 discharge and 130,519 deaths, details here.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- United States (Pfizer Incorporated and Moderna Incorporated) has announced that their vaccine candidates were now over 90% effective against the covid-19, details here.
- The European Commission, France, Spain, The Republic of Korea and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation pledge US$360 million to COVAX, the Vaccines Pillar of the ACT Accelerator, details here.
- WHO established Council on the Economics of Health for All. The Council, comprising top economists and health experts, will focus on investments in health, and achieving sustainable, inclusive and innovation-led economic growth, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry
- **Surveillance, Contact Tracing, Containment:** Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Karnataka, Puducherry, and Telangana
  - In Uttar Pradesh, to identify ILI/SARI symptoms, a total of 2,88,15,423 houses have been covered and 106,033 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams
- **Risk Communication and Community Engagement:** WHO launched a series of information videos for COVID Appropriate behaviours particularly during the festive season. The aim is to promote key preventive behaviors for COVID-19 with a special focus on 3Ws: Wash your hands, Wear your mask, Watch your distance. We hope this will keep the festivals joyful for everyone, details available here.
- **Infection Prevention and Control and Hospital Preparedness:** In Karnataka WCO officers are members of District Expert committee and continue to support in assessing hospital preparedness and adherence to SOPs
  - Reorientation training completed for PHC/ UPHC staff in all 33 districts in Telangana and continues to support assessment of PHCs and COVID hospitals
- **Research and Development:** Supporting field work related to primary immunodeficiency disorder (PID) study in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu
  - WCO is supporting 20 high-burden facilities on standardizing COVID and pregnancy care
- **Information and Planning:** WCO is supporting Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, and Puducherry in preparation of database for health care workers for COVID-19 vaccine
  - WCO continues to provide technical inputs for case fatality ratio analysis and death audit in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Puducherry, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu
  - Supporting serosurvey activities in Bihar and Karnataka
- **Laboratory testing:** India tested 12,56,98,525 cumulative samples by 12 October and 8,61,706 samples were tested on 15 November, reported by ICMR.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Active Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>482,170</td>
<td>44,456</td>
<td>10,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru Urban</td>
<td>356,440</td>
<td>18,384</td>
<td>7,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>341,578</td>
<td>16,185</td>
<td>3,997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>269,133</td>
<td>13,873</td>
<td>2,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>250,850</td>
<td>13,416</td>
<td>2,403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>208,179</td>
<td>9,958</td>
<td>3,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East M. Nagar</td>
<td>120,302</td>
<td>8,094</td>
<td>1,934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>100,054</td>
<td>6,148</td>
<td>1,162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>53,311</td>
<td>7,959</td>
<td>1,769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West M. Nagar</td>
<td>33,104</td>
<td>7,648</td>
<td>1,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24 Parganas</td>
<td>85,064</td>
<td>7,742</td>
<td>1,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chittoor</td>
<td>61,975</td>
<td>7,367</td>
<td>1,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guntur</td>
<td>70,790</td>
<td>6,656</td>
<td>1,653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vizianagaram</td>
<td>66,930</td>
<td>6,222</td>
<td>1,563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thiruvananthapuram</td>
<td>61,158</td>
<td>6,471</td>
<td>1,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malappuram</td>
<td>66,103</td>
<td>6,143</td>
<td>1,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palghar</td>
<td>61,222</td>
<td>5,556</td>
<td>1,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anantapur</td>
<td>56,934</td>
<td>5,295</td>
<td>1,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prakasam</td>
<td>60,854</td>
<td>5,234</td>
<td>978</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison  Data Source: MOHFW & State’s bulletins, as of 15/11/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO-convened Global Study of the Origins of SARS-CoV-2: [LINK]
2. WHO Policy brief: Readiness for influenza during the COVID-19 pandemic [LINK]
3. WHO guidance for Pharmacists in Community Pharmacies during the COVID-19 [LINK]
4. MoHFW Guidelines for International Arrivals (in supersession of guidelines issued on the subject dated 2nd August 2020) [LINK]
5. MoHFW Guidelines on Managing Mental Illness in Hospital Settings during COVID-19 [LINK]

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline [here](https://www.mohfw.nic.in/corona). WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
**HIGHLIGHTS**

- PM calls for observing restraint during the festival season considering the pandemic (Link)
- Health Minister exhorts Delhi to implement Prime Minister’s Jan Andolan to reduce the momentum of COVID-19 by the end of the year (Link)
- Health Minister reviews COVID-19 preparedness in Karnataka to ensure compliance to COVID appropriate behavior (Link)
- Ministry of Culture issues SOPs for re-opening museums, art galleries, and exhibitions delineating preventive measures to contain spread of COVID-19 (Link)
- UGC issues guidelines for re-opening universities and colleges post lockdown (Link)
- Goa postal division launches Special Cover and special cancellation regarding COVID-19 and mental health (Link)
- Member, Health, NITI Aayog calls for “Mask-wali Diwali, Mask-wali Christmas and Mask-wali Eid” to avoid surge during festive season (Link)
- Six women led startups win the MyGov-UN Women organized ‘Shri Shakti Challenge’ aimed to encourage female led startups develop innovative solutions against COVID19 (Link)

**INDIA SITUATION**

As of 08 November 2020, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI has confirmed 8,229,313 COVID-19 cases and 122,607 deaths. Till date, India has tested more than 110 million samples. Compared to previous weeks, multiple states/UTs, namely, Andaman & Nicobar Island, Chandigarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Punjab, Sikkim, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, vanish from the list of places with increase in cases.

**WHO Situation Update**

- **India**
  - 8,229,313 Confirmed Cases
  - 122,607 Total Deaths
- **South East Asia Region**
  - 9,641,945 Confirmed Cases
  - 149,326 Total Deaths
- **World**
  - 49,727,316 Confirmed Cases
  - 1,248,373 Deaths

**Figure 6**

Source: WHO Dashboard as of 08 November 2020 reported by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- The resumed 73rd World Health Assembly (WHA73) opened to the tune of the classic hit song “We are Family” by Sister Sledge, and the launch of a Universal Health and Preparedness Review and the need to “reimagine” global leadership and “forge a new era of cooperation” reflecting the lessons of the COVID-19 pandemic, details here.
- HIV Prevention Trials Network study (HPTN 084) on the safety and efficacy of the long-acting injectable antiretroviral drug cabotegravir (CAB LA), for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in HIV-uninfected women, was stopped early by the trial Data and Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB), details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.
  - WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in **Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puducherry**
  - WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC
  - In Odisha, COVID review meeting was held chaired by Chief Minister and review led by Additional Chief Secretary regarding laboratory testing, wherein WCO supported.
  - WHO participated in series of meetings chaired by Health Minister, **Karnataka** regarding COVID-19 vaccine introduction preparedness, and overall review

- **Risk communication and Community Engagement:** WCO continues to support Intra-Action Review (IAR) of trained officers from IIPH, Gandhinagar and IIM, Ahmedabad in **Gujarat**, and is working closely with Principal Secretary, Health for its documentation
  - Supporting **Karnataka and Telangana** for communication campaign to improve COVID appropriate behavior
  - Continue to facilitate training of volunteers of Sevadals of Sri Sathya Sai Seva organizations on COVID-19 appropriate behaviors in **Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh** in collaboration with UNICEF
  - WCO and UNICEF jointly facilitated meeting with faith leaders in **Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Karnataka** to promote caution during upcoming festive season

- **Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance:** Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities and supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis.

- **Laboratory testing:** India tested 12,56,98,525 cumulative samples by 12 October and 8,61,706 samples were tested on 15 November, reported by ICMR.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

Additional Guidelines This Week

1. MoHFW Guidelines for International Arrivals (in supersession of guidelines issued on the subject dated 2nd August 2020) [LINK]
2. WHO Statement to the resumed 73rd World Health Assembly by the Chair of the Review Committee on the Functioning of the International Health Regulations (2005) during the COVID-19 Response [LINK]
3. World Health Assembly chart on course for COVID-19 response and global health priorities [LINK]
4. WHO-ICMRA joint statement on the need for improved global regulatory alignment on COVID-19 medicines and vaccines [LINK]

For More Information Contact

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline [here].

WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- PM calls for observing restraint during the festival season considering the pandemic (Link)
- Health Minister reviewed COVID-19 response preparedness in Tamil Nadu (Link)
- States/UTs advised to gear up “testing, tracking & treatment’ strategy during the festival season (Link)
- Governor, Uttar Pradesh launches world’s first scientoon book “Bye Bye Corona” aimed at generating awareness regarding COVID-19 in an engaging manner (Link)
- Union Health Minister launches Punjab National Bank's All India CSR campaign against COVID 19 (Link)
- Ministry of Home Affairs notified the guidelines for re-opening to remain in force till end of November (Link)
- New age sustainable disinfectants and sanitizers increasingly being produced by start-ups likely to bring relief from chemical ones with side effects (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 2 November 2020, MoHFW has confirmed 8,229,313 cases with 561,908 active COVID-19 cases, 7,544,798 discharged and 122,607 deaths. This week compared to previous week Chandigarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Telangana have shown increase in the cases, details here.

Source: Calculated by WHO Country Office based on MoHFW data available on https://www.mohfw.gov.in/
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- The past week saw the highest number of COVID-19 cases reported so far, and many countries in the northern hemisphere are seeing a concerning rise in cases and hospitalizations [Link].

WHO reiterated that as new COVID-19 vaccines and treatments become available, health-care professionals and patients will need to be actively engaged in monitoring the effects of these novel products and reporting any potential adverse reaction, details [here].

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Jharkhand, Telangana and Puducherry
  - WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC
  - WCO participated in series of review meetings chaired by Health Minister and Additional Chief Secretary, Karnataka to review COVID-19 vaccination preparedness and overall response

- **Contact Tracing and Surveillance:** WCO continues supporting COVID-19 containment activities (identify containment zones, supportive supervision and monitoring of contact tracing) in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Telangana
  - In Karnataka: development of SOPs for containment zones, syndromic surveillance, clinical management and guidelines for post-COVID care
  - In Madhya Pradesh: surveillance strengthening for seasonal influenza and COVID-19

- **Risk Communication and Community Engagement:** WCO and UNICEF jointly facilitated meeting with faith leaders in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Karnataka to promote caution during upcoming festive season.
  - WCO continues to support Karnataka for the communication campaign to improve COVID appropriate behavior

- **Infection Prevention and Control:** Re-orientated 600 government medical doctors for IPC in Uttar Pradesh
  - In Karnataka: WCO officers are members of District Expert committee and continue to support in assessing hospital preparedness and adherence to SOPs

- **Research and Development:** In addition to the SCOPE study for Pregnancy and COVID, WCO set up the Registry for 0-18 years together with the Indian Association of Pediatrics.
  - WCO continues to support 11 unity protocol studies in collaboration with medical institutes across India

- **Laboratory testing:** India tested 11,07,43,103 cumulative samples by 12 October and 8,55,800 samples were tested on 19 October, reported by ICMR.
  - WCO continues to support ICMR for supplies and kits as needed. WHO teams in states continue to review epi trends and tests conducted and provide feedback to state governments.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

1. MoHFW Guidelines on Managing Mental Illness in Hospital Settings during COVID-19 [Link]
2. WHO Harmonized health service capacity assessments in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic [Link]
3. WHO Prevention, identification and management of health worker infection in the context of COVID-19 [Link]
4. WHO Considerations in the investigation of cases and clusters of COVID-19 [Link]
5. WHO Assessment tool for laboratories implementing SARS-CoV-2 testing: Interim Guidance [Link]

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WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime Minister cautioned against complacency, callousness and appealed to citizens to not let guard down against COVID-19 [Link]
- Health Minister reviews COVID-19 response preparedness in Uttar Pradesh and reiterates that the coming three months of festivities and winters will be crucial in determining COVID-19 trajectory in the country [Link]
- Health Minister discusses implementation of Prime Minister’s Jan Andolan against COVID-19 with senior officials of Madhya Pradesh [Link] and Gujarat [Link]
- Sports Authority of India (SAI) training centers to resume sporting activities from November in light of the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics [Link]
- Health Minister addresses the World Bank-IMF annual meeting and highlights the importance of preparedness has been taught by COVID-19 [Link]
- Minister of Health launches website that gives comprehensive information about the numerous COVID-19 clinical trials led by Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) and partners [Link]

INDIA SITUATION

As of 25 October 2020, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI has confirmed 7,864,811 COVID-19 cases and 118,534 deaths. Since the past six weeks, India is showing a decreasing trend in daily cases. Compared to the last highest daily cases (97,894) on 17 September, India has reported 50,129 cases on 25 October (decrease of around 50%). India’s 7 Day Moving Average (7DMA) daily test positivity rate is 4.6%.

WHO Situation Update

- India
  - 7,946,429 Confirmed Cases
  - 119,502 Total Deaths
- South East Asia Region
  - 8,969,707 Confirmed Cases
  - 140,827 Total Deaths
- World
  - 43,341,451 Confirmed Cases
  - 1,157,509 Deaths

Source: Calculated by WHO Country Office based on MoHFW data available on https://www.mohfw.gov.in/
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO and the Wikimedia Foundation, announced today a collaboration to expand the public’s access to the latest and most reliable information about COVID-19, details here.
- At the 26 Polio IHR Emergency Committee meeting, discussions were held to address COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing spread of cVDPV2 in order to restart progress toward global polio eradication, details here.
- COVID-19 is putting at risk the progress made in the global TB programme, as countries are reallocating human, financial and other resources from TB to COVID-19 response (Link)
- WHO invites independent film-makers, production companies, NGOs, communities, students, and film schools from around the world to submit films to the 2nd Health for All Film Festival (Link)

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination**: WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Jharkhand, Telangana and Puducherry
- **Surveillance, Contact Tracing, Containment**: WHO Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Chandigarh UT, Punjab, Karnataka, Bihar, Telangana and Puducherry and Uttar Pradesh. WCO continues to provide supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing and identify containment zones
  - WCO supported Rajasthan to issue clinical management guidelines for COVID-19 (adults and children) and is assisting to establish post-COVID care clinics in all districts
- **Risk Communication and Community Engagement**: WCO and UNICEF jointly facilitated meeting with faith leaders in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana to promote caution during upcoming festive season
- **Infection Prevention and Control and Hospital Preparedness**: In Telangana, WCO completed IPC training for doctors and health workers at urban and primary health centres in all 33 districts
  - WCO continues to support COVID-19 hospital assessments in Karnataka and Telangana at the district level
- **Essential Health Service**: Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Puducherry, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh
  - WCO is providing strategic technical support in Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Karnataka, Telangana, Karnataka, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh for COVID-19 vaccination
  - WCO facilitated ToT for Routine immunization for Front line health workers in Salem, Tamil Nadu.
- **Information and Planning**: WCO continues to provide technical inputs for case fatality ratio analysis and death audit in Chhattisgarh, Karnataka and Puducherry
- **Laboratory testing**: India tested 10,34,62,778 cumulative samples by 28 October and 9,39,309 samples were tested on 19 October, reported by ICMR. WCO continues to support ICMR for supplies and kits as needed.
**SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA**

### Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Deceased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru Urban</td>
<td>555,036</td>
<td>26,744</td>
<td>51,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>379,856</td>
<td>15,110</td>
<td>10,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>325,773</td>
<td>9,995</td>
<td>6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>261,083</td>
<td>21,350</td>
<td>2,954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>111,166</td>
<td>11,844</td>
<td>3,589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>106,041</td>
<td>10,271</td>
<td>2,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>92,347</td>
<td>8,495</td>
<td>1,597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghaziabad</td>
<td>82,827</td>
<td>7,138</td>
<td>1,524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>76,560</td>
<td>6,910</td>
<td>1,512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vijayawada</td>
<td>75,915</td>
<td>6,424</td>
<td>1,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chittoor</td>
<td>70,941</td>
<td>5,782</td>
<td>1,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24 Parganas</td>
<td>73,051</td>
<td>5,717</td>
<td>1,297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guntur</td>
<td>65,051</td>
<td>5,317</td>
<td>976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aurangabad</td>
<td>63,088</td>
<td>5,296</td>
<td>967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khammam</td>
<td>61,801</td>
<td>5,084</td>
<td>945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warangal</td>
<td>59,323</td>
<td>4,995</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.P.S. Nellore</td>
<td>58,984</td>
<td>4,895</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raigad</td>
<td>58,039</td>
<td>4,808</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison*  
Data Source: MOH & State's bulletins, as of 25/10/2020

### ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW Guidelines for management of co-infection of COVID-19 with other seasonal epidemic prone diseases ([Link](#))
2. ICMR issued advisory on CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats) technology-based SARS-CoV-2 test ([Link](#))
3. WHO Interim Guidance: Assessment tool for laboratories implementing SARS-CoV-2 testing ([Link](#))
4. WHO Interim Guidance: Considerations in the investigation of cases and clusters of COVID-19 ([Link](#))

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline [here](#).  
WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime Minister reviewed the Covid-19 pandemic situation in the country and preparedness of vaccine delivery, distribution, and administration (Link)
- Health Minister urged citizens to honor the Prime Minister’s call for Jan Andolan (People’s Movement) and to follow COVID appropriate behaviors (Link)
- MoHFW rushed high level central teams to Kerala, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal to support COVID-19 response action in these states (Link)
- Ministry of Culture issued detailed SOPs for cultural functions to facilitate organization of cultural events during the COVID-19 pandemic (Link)
- NITI Aayog member stressed the importance of following COVID Appropriate Behaviors during upcoming festival season, winter, while opening up of economy activities (Link)
- Minister of Health chaired 21st meeting of Group of Ministers on COVID-19 to review country’s preparedness and response (Link)
- Finance Minister announced measures of INR 73,000 crore to stimulate consumer spending before end of this Financial Year in fight against COVID-19 (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 19 October 2020, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI has confirmed 7,597,063 COVID-19 cases and 115,197 deaths. Maharashtra state reported highest cases (>1.5 million) followed by Andhra Pradesh (779,146) and Karnataka (758,574). Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh contribute about 60% of total cases in India.

WHO Situation Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Confirmed Cases</th>
<th>Total Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>7,597,063</td>
<td>115,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Asia</td>
<td>8,546,666</td>
<td>135,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>40,118,333</td>
<td>1,114,749</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Calculated by WHO Country Office based on MoHFW data available on https://www.mohfw.gov.in/
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- Solidarity Therapeutics Trial produces conclusive evidence on the effectiveness of repurposed drugs for COVID-19 in record time, details here.
- Results show Remdesivir, Hydroxychloroquine, Lopinavir and Interferon regimens appeared to have little or no effect on hospitalized COVID-19, as indicated by overall mortality, initiation of ventilation and duration of hospital stay, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Puducherry.
- **Surveillance, Contact Tracing, Containment:** Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Chandigarh UT and Punjab, WCO continues to provide supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing and identify containment zones
  - WCO is a technical partner for sero-survey in Bihar. Data for the sero-survey conducted in Patna was analyzed and presented to state officials
- **Risk Communication and Community Engagement:** WHO-UNDP collaborative webinar series “Mann Darshan” held its third webisode titled “COVID-19 Warriors: Strengthening the Frontline” in partnership with UNICEF.
- **Infection Prevention and Control and Hospital Preparedness:** WCO continues supporting IPC training of doctors and health workers in hospitals and PHC level in Maharashtra and Telangana
  - WCO is supporting COVID-19 hospital assessments in Karnataka at the district level
- **Research and Development:** WCO is supporting MoHFW in drafting the Operation Guidelines for COVID 19 vaccines under clinical and pre-clinical development in India
  - WCO is supporting 11 WHO unity protocol studies in collaboration with medical institutes across India
- **Essential Health Service:** Together with MoHFW and NIMHANS, WHO launched the first National Orientation Workshop for Adolescent Health Counselors under the RKS program, includes COVID appropriate behaviour, mental health and integrated SRHR counselling.
  - Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh
  - WCO facilitated State Routine Immunization review meeting chaired by Director Family Welfare, Delhi and is supporting microplanning for intensifying routine immunization activities
- **Information and Planning:** WCO will support seroprevalence study in all districts of Kashmir
  - WCO field teams in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, UP and Uttarakhand continue to share epidemiological analysis and feedback with districts and state officials.
- **Laboratory testing:** India tested 9,50,83,976 cumulative samples by 12 October and 8,59,786 samples were tested on 19 October, reported by ICMR. WCO continues to support ICMR for supplies and kits as needed.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confirmed</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Deceased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>333,037</td>
<td>64,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>322,818</td>
<td>40,067</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td>274,535</td>
<td>10,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>228,505</td>
<td>30,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>213,506</td>
<td>12,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>188,061</td>
<td>12,402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Godavari</td>
<td>100,611</td>
<td>11,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagercoil</td>
<td>55,021</td>
<td>10,498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nandurbar</td>
<td>89,007</td>
<td>10,393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Godavari</td>
<td>78,003</td>
<td>10,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chhindwara</td>
<td>75,053</td>
<td>9,798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrissur</td>
<td>66,684</td>
<td>8,363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ernakulam</td>
<td>64,780</td>
<td>7,642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thiruvananthapuram</td>
<td>59,811</td>
<td>7,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malappuram</td>
<td>57,190</td>
<td>7,246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrissur</td>
<td>56,682</td>
<td>7,198</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison*  Data Source: MOH & State’s bulletins, as of 18/10/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MHA Guidelines for international arrivals (in supersession of guidelines issued on the subject dated 24th May 2020) (to be operational from 00.01 Hrs, 8th August 2020) ([Link](#))
2. ICMR updated ‘Guidance on Rapid Antigen Test Kits for COVID-19’ ([Link](#))
3. MoHFW Guidelines for management of co-infection of COVID-19 with other seasonal epidemic prone diseases ([Link](#))
4. MoHFW ‘Encouraging youth to advocate against stigma and discrimination during COVID-19’ in English & Hindi ([Link](#))
5. Environmental and Social Management Framework for India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project ([Link](#))

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline [here](#).
WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

• PM launched public campaign to promote COVID appropriate behavior and appeals citizens to unite in fight against COVID-19 (Link)
• Health Minister in the latest SAMVAAD meeting shared the role of Ayurveda in fight against COVID-19; ICMR’s upcoming study on reinfection and country’s COVID-19 vaccination plans (Link)
• Home Minister appealed to public to unite for PM’s public movement in fight against COVID-19 (Link)
• Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment inaugurated International conference on "Mental Health: Looking Beyond COVID 19" (Link)
• Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region lauds role of North-East States in relatively successful COVID-19 management (Link)
• Minister of Health informed that a digital platform is being built to track COVID-19 vaccine administration and movement (Link)
• Ministry of Information and Broadcasting releases SoP for film exhibition as cinema halls receive permission to open with 50% capacity (Link)
• Ministry of Education has issued guidelines for reopening of schools (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 11 October 2020, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI has confirmed 7,053,806 COVID-19 cases and 108,334 deaths. India’s 7 Day Moving Average (7DMA) for testing is more than one million and daily test positivity rate (7DMA) is 6.4%.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- World Mental Health Day, was celebrated globally on 10 October. WHO urged Member States for increased investment in mental health programmes, which have already suffered from years of chronic underfunding, is now more important than it has ever been, details [here](#).
- WHO report warns that the COVID-19 pandemic could worsen the global number of stillbirths. A 50 per cent reduction in health services due to the pandemic could cause nearly 200 000 additional stillbirths over a 12-month period in 117 low- and middle-income countries, details [here](#).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana
  - WCO personnel continue to be deployed to support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC
- **Surveillance, Contact Tracing, Containment:** WCO continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities.
  - In Chattisgarh, WCO supported capacity building workshops for house to house survey campaign- ‘Corona Sadhan Samudayik Survey Abhiyan’
- **Risk Communication and Community Engagement:** WCO facilitated virtual consultation on World Mental Health day advocating prioritization of mental health efforts and investment during COVID-19; chaired by Joint Secretary (EA), MoHFW and Deputy Director General (Mental Health and International Health)
- **Infection Prevention and Control and case management:** WCO trained health workers on IPC in several states - 29 districts of Telangana, Karnataka and Telangana, West Bengal, and Maharashtra
- **Research and Innovation:** Three vaccines in India are in Phase 2 / 3 clinical trials– Bharat Biotech, Zydus Cadila and Serum Institute of India (with AstraZeneca)
  - Consultation meetings have been initiated with Drug Controller General India (DCGI) to discuss regulatory oversight of vaccines for supply of COVID 19 vaccines to United Nations agencies with all levels of WHO and Prequalification team at WHO HQ.
  - WHO is working closely with GoI and DCGI on an agreement to enable India to act as ‘National Regulatory Authority (NRA) of Reference’ and allow exports of vaccines to other countries to happen in a seamless manner
- **Laboratory testing:** Overall, India has tested 8,68,77,242 cumulative total samples up to October 12, 2020 with 10,78,544 samples tested on 04.10.20, reported by ICMR. WCO continues to support ICMR for supplies and kits as needed.
  - The Indian institute under the Department of Biotechnology, Translational Health Science & Technology Institute has been recognized by CEPI as one of the global networks of laboratories for centralized assessment of COVID 19 vaccines; total 6 labs globally identified for the purpose
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Deceased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>314,118</td>
<td>106,568</td>
<td>64,911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>276,914</td>
<td>85,099</td>
<td>5,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td>227,276</td>
<td>70,580</td>
<td>5,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>203,015</td>
<td>67,227</td>
<td>3,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>180,751</td>
<td>55,980</td>
<td>3,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>105,462</td>
<td>35,152</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Godavari</td>
<td>86,187</td>
<td>29,002</td>
<td>2,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>55,944</td>
<td>21,005</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>55,099</td>
<td>18,001</td>
<td>1,991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Godavari</td>
<td>74,214</td>
<td>24,002</td>
<td>1,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solapur</td>
<td>69,605</td>
<td>22,002</td>
<td>1,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>63,666</td>
<td>20,002</td>
<td>1,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anantapur</td>
<td>60,636</td>
<td>18,002</td>
<td>1,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surat</td>
<td>59,411</td>
<td>17,002</td>
<td>1,765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24 Pargas</td>
<td>58,588</td>
<td>16,002</td>
<td>1,739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranchi</td>
<td>59,999</td>
<td>15,002</td>
<td>1,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ludhiana</td>
<td>57,385</td>
<td>14,002</td>
<td>1,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.P.S. Nellore</td>
<td>56,390</td>
<td>13,002</td>
<td>1,684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raipur</td>
<td>55,310</td>
<td>12,002</td>
<td>1,668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prakasam</td>
<td>54,026</td>
<td>11,002</td>
<td>1,652</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison  Data Source: MOH & State’s bulletin, as of 11/10/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO COVID-19 Target product profiles for priority diagnostics to support COVID-19 response (Link)
2. World Health Organization, United for Global Mental Health and the World Federation for Mental Health, Joint Statement (link)
   2i Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on preventive measures to contain spread of COVID-19 during festivities (Link)
   2ii SOP on preventive measures to be followed in Entertainment Parks and similar places to contain spread of COVID-19 (Link)
   2iii Environmental and Social Management Framework for India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness (Link)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66664800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Dr Harsh Vardhan, launched decade of healthy ageing on International Day for Older Persons and shared efforts by the Government to address concerns of older persons during COVID-19 ([Link](#)).
- Ministry of Home Affairs issued new guidelines for re-opening during Unlock 5.0 ([Link](#)).
- Minister of Health launched CSIR Technologies for rural development, a post COVID fast track action plan to create livelihood opportunities in rural areas ([Link](#)).
- Vice President condemns the instances of stigma and discrimination against frontline warriors and COVID-19 patients ([Link](#)).
- Minister of Health and Family Welfare shared information about India’s COVID-19 vaccination rollout strategy ([Link](#)).
- Sports Authority of India (SAI) has issued SOP for "Graduated Return to Play" for athletes who test positive for COVID-19 ([Link](#)).
- MoHFW unveiled a COVID-19 vaccine web portal and national clinical registry portal for COVID-19 to be hosted by ICMR ([Link](#)).

**INDIA SITUATION**

As of 05 October 2020, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI has confirmed 6,623,815 COVID-19 cases, and 102,685 deaths. India’s total recovered cases have crossed 5.5 million. The COVID burden varies across states when assessed in accordance to the population size (graph below), details [here](#).
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO released results of disrupted or halted critical mental health services survey of 130 countries showing the devastating impact of COVID-19 on access to mental health services, details [here](#).
- World leaders, celebrities to join WHO’s Big Event for Mental Health on 10 October— which is free and open to the public, will be broadcast on **10 October from 16:00-19:00 CEST** on WHO’s Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and TikTok channels and website, details [here](#).
- New commitments from governments, international organizations and the private sector support unified approach to end pandemic, backing a response of unprecedented scale, scope and speed—through the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator, details [here](#).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana
  - WCO personnel continue to be deployed to support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC
  - WCO continues to support Chief Secretary, to analyze COVID-19 situation in Delhi, on request of Officer on Special Duty, WCO shared list of worst affected districts in the country
- **Surveillance, Contact Tracing, Containment:** WCO continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Chandigarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh
  - WCO is assisting Rajasthan to build capacity on COVID management protocols, providing supervisory support for strengthening surveillance, and developing training module for field survey teams.
- **Infection Prevention and Control and case management:** WCO held capacity building workshops on IPC for 65 Medical officers in Alwar, Rajasthan
  - Supported Andhra Pradesh for orientation of newly recruited medical officers
  - Organised training for PHC/ UPHC staff in 29 districts of Telangana. The opportunity was also used to discuss the gaps related to surveillance sensitivity and reorienting the health workforce on the basics of AFP, MR and DPT surveillance.
- **Essential Services:** Health Minister, Karnataka approved the launch of India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI) in the state; and West Bengal has launched also IHCI in the state.
  - Routine immunization services are resuming with WHO supported workshops for strengthening VPD surveillance and immunization being conducted in Karnataka and Kerala
  - WCO is supporting Tamil Nadu in strengthening Measles and Rubella surveillance through orientation of front-line workers
- **Laboratory testing:** Overall, India has tested 7,99,82,394 cumulative total samples up to October 04, 2020 with 9,89,860 samples tested on 04.10.20, reported by ICMR. WCO continues to support ICMR for supplies and kits as needed.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Vulnerability Across States

90% COVID Burden in 15 states

Source: Lancet Vulnerability Index published July 2020

Source: MoHFW as of 5th October 2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO Emergency Global Supply Chain System (COVID-19) catalogue (Link)
2. WHO Diagnostic testing for SARS-CoV-2: Interim guidance (Link)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800  I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime Minister stressed on testing, tracing, treatment, surveillance and clear messaging for COVID-19 response while interacting with chief ministers of seven states with highest case burden (Link)
- Vice President stressed the need to identify opportunities in current pandemic for radical reforms in health sector through digital technology and Artificial Intelligence powered tools (Link)
- MoHFW advised 10 states with high case burden to implement COVID-19 communication campaign targeted at COVID appropriate behaviors (Link)
- NITI Aayog and International Energy Agency launched special report on Sustainable Recovery Post COVID-19 which details energy-focused policies and investments to boost economic growth (Link)
- More than 11 Lakh Indians Returned to India Under Vande Bharat Mission and lifeline UDAN was Started to Ensure Steady Countrywide Supply of Essentials (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 27 September 2020, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI has confirmed 5,992,532 COVID-19 cases and 94,503 deaths. India’s total recovered cases have crossed 4,90,000, with 92,043 patients being discharged in the last 24 hours. This has resulted in the Recovery Rate touching 82%, details here.

WHO Situation Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Confirmed Cases</th>
<th>Total Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>5,992,532</td>
<td>94,503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Asia Region</td>
<td>6,720,771</td>
<td>110,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>32,730,954</td>
<td>991,224</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as on 27 September 2020
**WHO GLOBAL UPDATE**

- WHO together with the UN, specialized agencies and partners called on countries to develop and implement action plans to promote the timely dissemination of science-based information and prevent the spread of false information while respecting freedom of expression, details [here](#).
- WHO together with UN launched Every Woman, Every Child (EWEC) Global Strategy Progress report - Protect the Progress - Rise, Refocus, Recover. The report advocates for countries to continue investing in the health of all women, children and adolescents, in all crises, details [here](#).
- 156 economies, representing nearly two-thirds of the global population, have committed to, the COVAX Facility, details [here](#).

**WHO COUNTRY UPDATE**

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.
  - WHO convened the 17th Health Partners Meeting to review the progress made by all UN partners towards the implementation of the Joint UN Response Plan (JRP).
- **Surveillance, Contact Tracing, Containment:** With support from WCO, Rajasthan has developed an app, Mission LISA, to screen high-risk persons. This app till date has screened 11 013 430 persons and 1 455 662 have been found as high-risk.
  - Uttar Pradesh - a total 25,246,927 houses have been covered by teams to identify ILI/SARI symptoms and 52,434 symptomatic identified. [Surveillance efforts have been supported by all partners including WHO](#).
  - WCO continues to provide support in monitoring contact tracing and containment zones in Delhi and Maharashtra and in identification and microplanning of containment zones in Punjab and Chandigarh.
- **Infection Prevention and Control and case management:** WCO continues the mentorship programme for clinical management of COVID-19 cases, including administering oxygen therapy, in Rajasthan.
  - WCO team held COVID-19 training for PHC/ UPHC staff in 8 districts in Telangana.
- **Essential Services:** Field teams continue to support states for streamlining essential health services like Immunization, Hypertension, RMNCAH and TB Elimination.
  - Health Minister, West Bengal approved the launch of India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI) in the state.
  - WCO is supporting SNID activities in Delhi, Chandigarh, Jharkhand, Punjab, Haryana and Odisha.
  - WCO facilitated virtual meeting regarding strengthening Routine Immunization in Assam where we facilitated state level RRT re-orientation with faculties from Medical Colleges and State Epidemiologist.
- **Risk Communication and Community Engagement:** Mass Awareness Campaign on COVID-19 initiated in Assam with support from WCO.
- **Laboratory testing:** Overall, India has tested over 69,000,000 samples to date with 14,92,409 samples tested on 27.09.20, reported by ICMR. WCO continues to support ICMR for supplies and kits as needed.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Deceased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>59,332</td>
<td>39,971</td>
<td>8,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru Urban</td>
<td>27,086</td>
<td>19,247</td>
<td>5,429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>204,275</td>
<td>14,894</td>
<td>5,087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>190,264</td>
<td>10,913</td>
<td>4,624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>175,733</td>
<td>9,671</td>
<td>3,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>158,594</td>
<td>9,216</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Godavari</td>
<td>90,047</td>
<td>8,991</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>66,843</td>
<td>8353</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasik</td>
<td>67,831</td>
<td>8,212</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>59,332</td>
<td>7,783</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru Urban</td>
<td>27,086</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>7,783</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison  Data Source: MOH & State’s bulletins, as of 24/09/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

2. WHO Considerations for school-related public health measures in the context of COVID-19: Annex to Considerations in adjusting public health and social measures in the context of COVID-19 (Link)
3. MoHFW released no new technical documents for COVID-19 response during the week except updated SOP on preventive measures to contain spread of COVID-19 in skill or entrepreneurship training institutions, higher educational institutions conducting doctoral courses and post graduate studies in technical & professional programs requiring laboratory /experimental work (Link)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline here.
WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Health Minister made a statement at the parliament regarding COVID-19 pandemic and steps taken for its management in country (Link)
- India’s first indigenously developed CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats) COVID-19 test, was approved for use in country (Link)
- Minister of Commerce & Industry reviewed status of COVID-19 management including oxygen availability and usage in 12 states with high case load (Link)
- Ministry of Women and Child Development shared details of endeavors undertaken by Anganwadi workers and helpers to ensure continuous nutritional support to beneficiaries during the lockdown (Link)
- Ministry of Civil Aviation allowed RT-PCR testing for COVID-19 at the entry airport on pilot basis to facilitate the transfer of international passengers (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 21 September 2020, India confirmed 5,400,619 total cases and 86,752 deaths. 86,961 new cases were reported in the last 24 hours alone, 90% of the new confirmed cases are concentrated in 15 States/UTs., Maharashtra has alone contributed more than 20,000 and Andhra Pradesh has contributed more than 8,000 cases details here.

Top 15 States and Union Territories
Contribute to more than 90% of the total cases in country
Top 5 States have 60% cases in country

Source: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as on 21 September 2020
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• On World Patient Safety Day, WHO reminded governments that they have a legal and moral responsibility to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of health workers. The Organization’s health worker charter called on all Member States and relevant stakeholders to take steps, details here.
• 64 higher income economies have joined the COVAX Facility, a global initiative that brings together governments and manufacturers to ensure eventual COVID-19 vaccines reach those in greatest need, whoever they are and wherever they live, details here.
• WHO and UNICEF have entered a new Strategic Collaborative Framework to accelerate joint public health efforts with a special focus on most marginalized and vulnerable populations details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

• Coordination: WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.
  – In Odisha, WCO participated in review meeting chaired by Chief Minister on COVID-19 response. Analysis of COVID case burden, deaths and facility availability was shared with Additional Chief Secretary, and Special Secretary Health to support the response plan.
• Surveillance, Contact Tracing, Containment: WCO teams across states continue to provide technical support to states through high level advocacy, and knowledge sharing particularly in emerging and high-burden states.
• Information and Planning: WCO participated in meetings led by Principal Secretary, Bihar regarding COVID-19 sero-survey. Implementation of second round of Intensive Public Health Survey was done in Jharkhand.
  – WCO facilitated sero-survey training in Alipurduar, West Bengal, in 8 districts surveys has been completed.
  – WCO continues to provide support for data analysis and death audit in select states.
• Infection Prevention and Control: WCO is supporting training and re-orientation of doctors and other health workers on IPC in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Telangana.
• Essential Services: WCO is supporting polio SNID preparedness in Delhi, Punjab, Bihar and Jharkhand.
  – WCO supported Regional Reviews for Family Planning for North and North East states (conducted from 1 - 11 September 2020) wherein integrated SRH approach were emphasized.
  – Total 15 states have been reviewed and SRH Factsheets were developed for providing evidence-based, data-driven support for the review meetings.
• Risk Communication: WCO is supporting Dastak Campaign launched by Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh for communicable diseases & JE. In Assam and Delhi WCO is supporting RI and JE campaign in Meghalaya
• Laboratory testing: Overall, India has tested 63,600,000 samples to date with 12,06,806 samples tested on 21.09.20, reported by ICMR. WCO continues to support ICMR for supplies and kits as needed.
DAILY GROWTH OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

ADDitional GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO Considerations for school-related public health measures in the context of COVID-19; Annex to Considerations in adjusting public health and social measures in the context of COVID-19 (Link)
2. MoHFW released the following technical documents for COVID-19 response during the week:
   - Revised SOP on preventive measures to be followed while conducting examinations to contain spread of COVID-19 (Link)
   - SOP on preventive measures to contain spread of COVID-19 in skill or entrepreneurship training institutions, higher educational institutions conducting doctoral courses and post graduate studies in technical & professional programs requiring laboratory /experimental work (Link)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Health Minister shared India’s COVID-19 response measures at the ministerial round table session during WHO Regional Committee Meeting (Link)
- Principal Secretary to Prime Minister reviewed the COVID-19 preparedness and response status in India (Link)
- MoHFW in a virtual conclave with private hospitals emphasized compliance of national clinical treatment protocols and best practices in COVID-19 management (Link)
- Health Secretary reviewed COVID-19 management strategies in the eight North-East states (Link)
- MoHFW asked States/UTs to ensure seamless inter-state availability of medical oxygen for every hospitalized COVID-19 patient (Link)
- MoHFW has advised States/UTs to mandatorily retest with RT-PCR, all those symptomatic individuals who tested negative with Rapid Antigen Tests (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 14 September 2020, India confirmed 4,754,356 COVID-19 cases and 78,586 deaths. India’s total recovered cases have crossed 3,700,000. Cumulative deaths 57 per 1 million population and so far India has had a low case fatality for COVID at about 1.64%, details here.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO Director-General and President of the European Commission, co-hosted the inaugural meeting of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator Facilitation Council, details here.
- Surveys by UNICEF and WHO reveal that the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in major disruptions to health services that threaten to undo decades of hard-won progress, details here.
- WHO is supporting a virtual launch of the first progress report of the Global Action Plan for Healthy Lives and Well-being for All (GAP), which was launched at the United Nations General Assembly earlier, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Co-ordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, and Kerala
- **Surveillance and Response:** WCO teams across states continue to provide technical support to states through high level advocacy, and knowledge sharing particularly in emerging and high-burden states.
  - In Andhra Pradesh, WCO continues to support accelerated implementation of SARI Surveillance, including review meeting of district collectors led by Commissioner Health for strengthening surveillance
  - In Kerala, WCO continues to assist to implement the revised COVID-19 control strategy with focus on seamless hospital admission and case management
  - In Maharashtra, WCO is supporting DHO/MOH in assessing training needs and providing supportive supervision through visits to containment zones and fever clinics
- **Data collection and analysis:** WCO teams continue supporting data analysis and death audit in Bihar, Puducherry and Gujarat, and conducting sero-survey in Gujarat, West Bengal, Karnataka and Kerala
- **Infection prevention and control:** WCO is supporting hospital assessment and training on IPC in Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh
- **Essential Services:** WCO participated in the Quarterly National Review meeting led by MoHFW to review implementation of activities focused on Non-Communicable Diseases, including India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI). WCO also conducted trainings in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Telangana for effective management of hypertension and diabetes
- **Risk Communication:** Consultation was organized to capture the impact of COVID-19 on Youth. The panelists included officials from Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, mental health expert from AIIMS, New Delhi and a youth champion. The event had about 4,200 viewers.
- **Laboratory testing:** Overall, India has tested 5,83,12,273 samples to date with 10,72,845 samples tested on 1.09.20, reported by ICMR. WCO continues to support ICMR for supplies and kits as needed.
DAILY GROWTH OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts* for cumulative cases, active cases & deaths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Deceased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>232,840</td>
<td>41,093</td>
<td>8,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>218,304</td>
<td>29,551</td>
<td>4,813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td>170,663</td>
<td>13,260</td>
<td>3,474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>169,741</td>
<td>12,556</td>
<td>2,162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>156,916</td>
<td>11,056</td>
<td>2,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>148,584</td>
<td>10,296</td>
<td>1,994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>49,306</td>
<td>10,361</td>
<td>1,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>46,588</td>
<td>9,921</td>
<td>1,058</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>45,328</td>
<td>9,694</td>
<td>957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vizagapatnam</td>
<td>43,848</td>
<td>9,565</td>
<td>889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.P.S. Retailer</td>
<td>43,174</td>
<td>9,468</td>
<td>875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24 Parganas</td>
<td>41,594</td>
<td>8,890</td>
<td>717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raipur</td>
<td>41,355</td>
<td>8,477</td>
<td>596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucknow</td>
<td>39,188</td>
<td>7,159</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison | Data Source: MOH & State’s bulletins, as of 14/09/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO Guidelines - Antigen-detection in the diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection using rapid immunoassays (Link)
2. WHO Interim guidance on Diagnostic testing for SARS-CoV-2 (Link)
3. WHO Updated considerations for school-related public health measures in the context of COVID-19 (Link)
4. MoHFW released the following technical documents for COVID-19 response during the week:
   a. EMR Division Post COVID management protocol (Link)
   b. Revised SOP on preventive measures to be followed while conducting examinations to contain spread of COVID-19 (Link)
   c. SOP for partial reopening of Schools for students of 9th to 12th classes on a voluntary basis, for taking guidance from their teachers: In the context of COVID-19 (Link)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- MoHFW deployed central teams to Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh to assist in response against COVID-19 (Link)
- Union Health Secretary engaged with health officials of six States/UT exhibiting high surge, caseload and fatality (Link)
- Vice President calls for special care and support to elderly during pandemic and to reorient the health system to address specific needs of geriatric population (Link)
- Health Secretary in a press conference advised on adopting COVID Appropriate Behaviors for all citizens including recovered patients (Link)
- Government of Japan committed JPY 50 billion (Approximately INR 3500 crores) as official development assistance loan to India for COVID-19 crisis emergency response (Link)
- Ministers from Australia, India, and Japan underscored the necessity and potential to enhance supply chains resilience in Indo-Pacific region for COVID-19 (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As on 7 September 2020, 08:00 IST there were 882,542 active cases, 3,25,042 recovered, and 71,642 deaths in India. Various calibrated and focused actions within the umbrella strategy of TEST, TRACK and TREAT have enabled early identification of cases through aggressive and wide scale testing details here.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO is developing the COVID19: Health Services Learning Hub, a web-based platform for sharing of experiences and best practices, details [here](#).
- COVID-19 Partners Platform, developed collaboratively by WHO and the United Nations Development Coordination Office (UN DCO), is the first digital platform where governments, UN agencies, and partners can plan and coordinate together in one place, in real-time, for an acute event, details [here](#).
- 78 high- and upper-middle countries and economies have confirmed their participation in the COVAX Facility, and the number is growing as updated by WHO DG in the recent press briefing., details [here](#).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Co-ordination:** WCO continues to provide technical advice and support to MoHFW, EMR Division and NCDC. WCO advised NDMA officials on unlock 4.0 strategy, strengthening surveillance and testing in Delhi.
- **Essential Health Services:** Field teams across all states continue to support resumption of essential health services such as routine immunization (RI), AFP and VPD surveillance, activities for measles rubella (MR) elimination, TB detection and treatment, Hypertension Control and NTD activities
  - WCO supported the Annual Regional Review for Family Planning for North region - 8 states/UTs (Jammu Kashmir, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Chandigarh, Ladakh, Uttarakhand and Delhi).
- **Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance:** WCO continues to support contact tracing and containment activities, as of 5 September in Uttar Pradesh - a total 21,688,605 houses have been covered by teams to identify ILI/SARI symptoms and 27,088 symptomatic identified. On request of government of UP, WCO team completed verification of contact tracing done between 18-30 August, findings shared and appreciated by district and state authorities.
  - WCO is also supporting revision of COVID-19 management approach with focus on increasing the COVID Care Centers and testing facilities in several States.
- **Risk Communication:** UNDP-WHO organized a collaborative webinar session on ‘stigma and discrimination’ for the State and District level officials. At the State level, Health Minister of Punjab presided over the meeting and over 400 officials participated.
- **Laboratory testing:** Overall, India has tested 4,95,51,507 samples to date with 7,20,362 samples tested on 1.09.20, reported by ICMR. WCO is providing support to ICMR for revising quarantine and testing policy – an updated testing strategy has been released which includes the following (Link):
  a. Testing for Routine surveillance in containment zones and screening at points of entry
  b. Testing for Routine surveillance in non-containment areas
  c. Testing in Hospital Settings including choice of Test (in order of priority)
  d. Testing on demand (with freedom for State Governments to decide simplified modalities)
ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO published guidance for clinicians and health care decision-makers on the use of corticosteroids in patients with COVID-19 (Link)
2. WHO Latest information about COVID-19 and immune response : Epi Win series (Link)
3. MoHFW released the following technical documents for COVID-19 response during the week:
   a. SOP on preventive measures to be followed while conducting academic examinations to contain spread of COVID-19 (Link)
   b. Advisory on strategy for COVID-19 testing in India (Link)
   c. Containment and Surveillance Manual for Supervisors in Containment Zones (Link)
   d. Manual for Surveillance Teams for Containment Zones (Link)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Health Minister chaired 20th meeting of Group of Ministers on COVID-19 to review current status of country’s COVID-19 response [Link]
- Cabinet secretary reviewed COVID-19 management and response strategy in 10 States/UTs with high case fatality [Link]
- Ministry of Home Affairs issued new guidelines for opening up of more activities in areas outside the Containment Zones as part of Unlock 4, effective September 1, 2020 [Link]
- Under Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan (GKRA) for migrant workers returning to villages, 24 crore mandays employment has been provided and Rs. 18,862 crore has been spent so far in the pursuit of objectives of the Abhiyaan [Link]

INDIA SITUATION

As on 1 September 2020, 08:00 IST there were 785,996 Active Cases, 2,839,882 recovered, and 65,288 Deaths in India. India has registered 65,081 recoveries in the last 24 hours. The number of recovered patients has overtaken the active cases by 3.61 times. India has more than 2,000,000 recovered people than the active cases. details [here](#).
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- As per WHO global pulse survey, 90% of countries report disruptions to essential health services since COVID-19 pandemic. WHO Director-General reiterated "COVID-19 should be a lesson to all countries that health is not an ‘either-or’ equation. We must better prepare for emergencies but also keep investing in health systems that fully respond to people’s needs throughout the life course, details here.
- WHO’s DG together with World Federation’s President launched the 2020 World Mental Health Day Campaign Educational Material “Mental Health for All: Greater Investment - Greater Access” details here.
- 172 economies are now engaged in discussions to potentially participate in COVAX, a global initiative aimed at working with vaccine manufacturers to provide countries worldwide equitable access to safe and effective vaccines, once they are licensed and approved, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Co-ordination:** WCO continues to provide technical advice and support to MoHFW, EMR Division and NCDC.
  - The UNCT is in the process of develop the socio-economic response framework which includes an pillar on protection of health systems and services.
- **Essential Health Services:** Field teams across all states continue to support resumption of essential health services such as routine immunization (RI), AFP and VPD surveillance, activities for measles rubella (MR) elimination, TB detection and treatment, Hypertension Control and NTD activities
  - WCO is supporting MoHFW to undertake “Regional Review Meetings on SRHR” for all States/UTs with the aim to ensure continuation of essential services and safeguarding programs during the pandemic
- **Training:** WHO SCOPE initiative is ongoing with 20 institutions participating in the orientation training last week. This is to standardize reporting and management of COVID-19 and pregnancy outcome.
- **Research:** Solidarity Trial and the study on isolation of SARS-CoV-2 in tears at MAMC Delhi are ongoing.
  - 11 protocols undergoing review under the WHO Unity Protocol studies on risk of transmission in India
  - Four research protocols reviewed on proposed collaborative studies with National institutes:
    - All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS-Delhi) - study on COVID/Dengue co-infection
    - National Institute of Mental Health And Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS-Bangalore) - violence
    - International Institute of Population Sciences (IIPS- Mumbai) -migration and spread of Covid-19
- **Risk communication:** Under the National Stigma and Discrimination Alliance, a national webinar (28 August) on Mental health and Psychosocial well being of the Health care workers was technically supported by WCO, UNICEF and NIMHANS. The event was attended by over 170 participants from 24 states
  - WCO is working with the Youth Foundation for better engagement of youth in the COVID-19 response
- **Laboratory testing:** Overall, India has tested 4,33,24,834 samples to date with 10,16,920 samples tested on 1.09.20, reported by ICMR. WCO continues to support procurement, supplies and diagnostic kits.
DAILY GROWTH OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts* for cumulative cases, active cases & deaths

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<td>61,009</td>
<td>1,626</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
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<td>Mumbai</td>
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<td>14,793</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surat</td>
<td>58,020</td>
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<td>Kolkata</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visakhapatnam</td>
<td>38,060</td>
<td>8,837</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>West Godavari</td>
<td>35,964</td>
<td>8,137</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chittoor</td>
<td>35,713</td>
<td>7,177</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guntur</td>
<td>35,263</td>
<td>7,435</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24 Parganas</td>
<td>33,401</td>
<td>7,177</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmedabad</td>
<td>31,346</td>
<td>7,108</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Raipur</td>
<td>29,819</td>
<td>6,918</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.P. S. Nellore</td>
<td>29,519</td>
<td>6,864</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kanpur Metropolitan</td>
<td>28,125</td>
<td>6,824</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison  
Data Source: MOH & State’s bulletins, as of 31/08/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO technical package (SCORE- Survey, Count, Optimize, Review, Enable) to help countries improve health data for COVID-19 response and beyond (Link)
2. Public health criteria to adjust public health and social measures in the context of COVID-19- Annex to Considerations in adjusting public health and social measures in the context of COVID-19 (Link)
3. MoHFW Guidance note on bi-directional TB-COVID-19 screening and screening of TB among ILI/SARI cases (Link)
4. MoHFW Clinical guidance on diabetes management at COVID-19 management facility (Link)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline here.  
WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Aarogya Setu App developed by Government of India has introduced ‘Open API Service’ to help the people, businesses and the economy to return to normalcy (Link)
- Three COVID-19 vaccine candidates are in advanced stages of clinical trials (Link)
- Ministry of Home Affairs asks states to allow unhindered movement of persons and goods and services during Unlock-3 (Link)
- Ministry of Information in consultation with MoHFW released the Guiding Principles and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on preventive measures for Media Production (Link)
- Health Ministry’s ‘eSanjeevani’ telemedicine service records 2 lakh tele-consultations, scaling milestone of 50 000 teleconsultations in 10 days (Link)
- Food grains distributed by the States/UTs to migrants under the Atma Nirbhar Bharat scheme (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As on 24 August 2020, 08:00 IST there were 710,771 Active Cases 2,338,035 Cured/Discharged, and 57,542 Deaths in India. With 6,09,917 tests conducted in the last 24 hours, India is on its resolved drive to increase its testing capacity, details here.

WHO Situation Update

India
3 106 348 Confirmed Cases
57 542 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region
3 602 066 Confirmed Cases
68 493 Total Deaths

World
23 311 719 Confirmed Cases
806 410 Deaths

COVID-19 India
Test positivity rate, Cases growth rate & Tests growth rate

Test rate improving TPR falling Cases GR falling

Note: 7 DMA or all indices shown

Data source: MOH & ICMR bulletins as of 23/08/2020
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- World Humanitarian Day was observed on 19 August 2020 and recognized #RealLifeHeroes who are fighting COVID-19 among other emergencies and crises around the world, details here.
- WHO has released US$10 million for urgent preparedness and response COVID19 activities globally through the CFE and encourages donors to continue to replenish the CFE to allow WHO to respond to health emergencies in real time, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

Co-ordination: WCO continues to provide technical advice to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) and support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC.

Training and Capacity Building: WCO collaborated with AIIMS and FOGSI to conduct the largest synchronised training for more than 11,500 doctors, nurses and healthcare workers from the private sector across India. More than 20 leading national experts were resource persons for the 3-day certificate program “COVID-19 and RMNCAH”.

Research and Vaccine Development:
- WHO India in partnership with 4 WHO Collaborating Centers have initiated SCOPE (Standardization of COVID-19 and Pregnancy) with 20 participating high-delivery load facilities are in the process of obtaining ethical clearance for data collation using WHO standard norms.
- A new arm to evaluate the clinical efficacy of Acalabrutinib has been added to the WHO Global Solidarity Trial for therapeutic options for COVID 19. The kinase inhibitor Acalabrutinib which is an FDA-approved drug for chronic lymphocytic leukaemia could relieve cytokine storm that is often accompanied with the treatment of severe COVID-19 in patients.
- WCO India supported finalization of 11 Unity protocols in coordination with premier medical institutes across India. All the 11 protocols have already been technically cleared by WHO research review committees.

Risk Communication and Community Engagement: WCO is engaging with the Youth Foundation to create a network of adolescents and young people to further encourage young people to meaningfully participate in the fight against COVID-19.
- The first webisode “Manndarshan” a series on mental health has been launched in collaboration with UNDP. The first webinar had about 10,000 registrations and had a reach of close to 12,000.

Laboratory testing: Overall, India has tested 35,902,137 samples to date with 609,917 samples tested on 16 Aug, reported by ICMR.
- The whole genome sequences of SARS-CoV2 has revealed that point mutation at site D641G has changed the virus phenotype. However, the impact of this mutation on the disease transmission and severity remain largely unknown. In India around 33% of strains seems to have this mutation.
ICMR is in the process of publishing the manuscript on lab protocol for detecting SARS-CoV2 in sewage sample.

**DAILY GROWTH OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA**

**ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK**

1. WHO is expanding access to online learning for COVID-19 through its open learning platform for health emergencies, [OpenWHO.org](https://openwho.org).
2. MoHFW launched an interactive game and IEC content to promote COVID Appropriate Behaviors ([Link](#)).
3. MoHFW published guideline on safe ophthalmology practices in COVID-19 scenario ([Link](#)).
4. Education minister launched ‘Students’ Learning Enhancement Guidelines’ to promote equitable access to education during and post pandemic ([Link](#)).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

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WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime Minister saluted country’s valiant efforts in fight against COVID-19 in his Independence Day address to the nation and announced the National Digital Health Mission [Link]
- India sets a new landmark, exceeds 3 crore tests total, while Tests Per Million (TPM) continue to rise, stand at 21,769 today [Link]
- Expert group on vaccine administration for COVID-19 deliberated on strategy to ensure COVID-19 vaccines’ availability and its delivery mechanism in the country [Link]
- Union government has distributed more than 30 million N95 masks, 12.8 million PPEs as part of strengthening states’ COVID-19 response [Link]
- Health Minister lauded contribution of states in popularizing the tele-medicine platform “eSanjeevani” in country [Link]
- As part of Make in India initiative, country exported 2.3 million PPE kits in July [Link]

INDIA SITUATION

As on 17 August 2020, 08:00 IST there were 676,900 Active Cases, 1,919,842 Cured/Discharged, and 50,921 Deaths in India. India’s testing capacity has significantly grown from one lab at Pune in early January 2020 to 1470 today, including 969 labs in the government sector and 501 private labs, details [here](#).

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**WHO Situation Update 209**

India

- 2 589 682 Confirmed Cases
- 49 980 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region

- 3 040 168 Confirmed Cases
- 59 875 Total Deaths

World

- 21 294 845 Confirmed Cases
- 761 779 Deaths

---

**Daily cases, deaths & growth rate* in countries**

*(All variable 7 day’s moving averages)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily Cases</th>
<th>Daily Deaths</th>
<th>Daily Growth (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62,512</td>
<td>1,056</td>
<td>3.26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52,325</td>
<td>996</td>
<td>2.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44,666</td>
<td>931</td>
<td>1.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10,871</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>2.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Iraq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7,512</td>
<td>682</td>
<td>2.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Peru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6,840</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>1.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6,152</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>1.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,077</td>
<td>1,560</td>
<td>1.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,809</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>1.22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,415</td>
<td>109</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: only top 10 countries are shown.

* Growth rate has been shown only for countries with > 100,000 cases

Source: WHO Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Dashboard
Last updated: 17/08/2020, 07:00 AM IST
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO HQ daily situation reports will be replaced by a “COVID-19 Weekly Epidemiological Update” which will focus on analysis and interpretation of the evolving epidemiological situation, details [here](https://covid19.who.int).
  - All quantitative data will continue to be updated daily on the global COVID-19 dashboard, [covid19.who.int](https://covid19.who.int). Important narrative updates will appear on the “Rolling updates” pages.
  - Operational updates will continue to be shared through the “Weekly Operational Update on COVID-19”.
- The International Narcotics Control Board, World Health Organization, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime have released a statement calling on governments to ensure that the procurement and supply of controlled medicines in countries meet the needs of patients, both those who have COVID-19 and those who require internationally controlled medicines for other medical conditions, details [here](https://covid19.who.int).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Co-ordination**: WCO continues to provide technical advice to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) and support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC.
- **State Updates**: Across states, WCO continues to provide technical support to state and districts to train frontline workers (ASHAs/ANMs) on IPC, contact tracing, screening of high-risk population, ILI/SARI surveillance and addressing mental health issues.
- **Research and Vaccine Development**: WCO India supported finalization of 11 Unity protocols in coordination with premier medical institutes across India. All the 11 protocols have already been technically cleared by WHO-HQ reviewers and one is under consideration. A snapshot of the Unity protocols submitted from India:
  - Risk of transmission to HCW-Case Control Study (4 protocols)
  - Risk of Household transmission (4 protocols)
  - Risk of transmission to HCW-Cohort (2 protocols)
  - Sero-epidemiology stratified to urban, rural, tribal and metro populations (1 protocol)
- **WHO Solidarity trial** to help find an effective treatment for COVID-19, is underway in India.
  - Number of study sites registered with Drugs Controller General (India): 26
  - Number of sites recruiting subjects in the trial: 23
  - Total subjects already enrolled in the trial till 12 August: 670
- **Laboratory testing**: Overall, India has tested 3,00,41,400 samples to date with 7,31,697 samples tested on 16 Aug, reported by ICMR. There are 969 labs in the government sector and 501 private labs. Details [here](https://covid19.who.int),
  - Real-Time RT PCR based testing labs: 754 (Govt: 450 + Private: 304)
  - TrueNat based testing labs: 599 (Govt: 485 + Private: 114)
  - CBNAAT based testing labs: 117 (Govt: 34 + Private: 83)
DAILY GROWTH OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO published Emergency Global Supply Chain System (COVID-19) catalogue, which lists all medical devices, including PPE, medical equipment, medical consumables, single use devices, laboratory and test-related devices that may be requested through the COVID-19 Supply Portal (Link)

2. MoHFW Extension of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package: Insurance Scheme for Health Workers fighting COY ID-1 9 for a further period of 90 days beyond the original period (Link)

3. MoHFW Guidelines for international arrivals (in supersession of guidelines issued on the subject dated 24th May 2020) (to be operational from 00.01 Hrs, 8th August 2020) (Link)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr Harsh Vardhan interacted with WHO Regional Director and Health ministers from South East Asia region to discuss COVID-19 response and resumption of essential health services (Link)
- To strengthen public health facilities infrastructure for COVID-19 response, Union Government released financial package INR 890.32 million to 22 States/UTs (Link)
- Health Secretary, engaged state and district officials from 29 districts reporting high COVID-19 mortality to analyze reasons and advise measures to prevent and reduce mortality (Link 1 and 2)
- The Drugs Controller General of India approved Phase II+III trials of Oxford University vaccine (COVISHIELD) in India (Link)
- MoHFW highlighted the role of Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) in ensuring essential immunization services (Link)
- CSIR conducted a webinar on new technologies for various products related to COVID-19 with focus on water purification technologies (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As on 10 August 2020, 08:00 IST there were 2,215,074 and 44,386 Deaths in India. India's COVID-19 recoveries have crossed the historic peak of 1.5 million, highest ever single day recoveries of 54,859 in the last 24 hours, rate amongst the COVID-19 patients has scaled another high of almost 70%, details here.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• WHO celebrates Breastfeeding Awareness Week to highlight the importance of breastfeeding. WHO recommendations on the initiation and continued breastfeeding of infants and young children also apply to mothers with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, details here.

• Environmental surveillance by testing of waste water for evidence of pathogens has a long history of use in public health. WHO has published a scientific brief on how this form of surveillance is being used in the context of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

• Co-ordination: WCO continues to provide technical advice to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) and support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC.

• State Updates: Across states, WCO continues to provide technical support to state and districts to train frontline workers (ASHAs/ANMs) on IPC, contact tracing, screening of high-risk population, ILI/SARI surveillance and addressing mental health issues. Key updates include:
  – West Bengal to start census in Kolkata, Salt Lake, New town and Howrah to identify and reach out to elderly people staying alone for pre-emptive COVID-19 response. Kolkata Municipal Corporation is utilizing its community halls in 16 Boroughs as rapid antigen testing centres and RT–PCR sample collection centers
  – Andhra Pradesh has started sero-surveys in four districts - Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad installed ceiling mounted mass fever screening system to detect and track febrile persons
  – Tamil Nadu approved rupees 2.5 million ex-gratia to families of 28 frontline workers who died due to COVID-19

• Infection Prevention and Control (IPC): Field teams across all states continue to advocate to resume essential health services especially routine immunization, VPD surveillance, polio eradication, measles rubella elimination, TB detection and treatment, Hypertension Control Initiative and NCD activities.

• Research: WCO together with 4 WHO Collaborating Centers in India are working in 20 high-delivery load facilities across the country for standardizing COVID-19 and Pregnancy (also called SCOPE initiative) for improving data collection methods and protocol and improving the quality of evidence on clinical characteristics and outcomes for COVID-19 and pregnancy in India

• Information and planning: On request of Health Department, WCO officials developed a presentation which details the COVID situation which was presented in the cabinet meeting (01 August 2019)

• Laboratory testing: WCO has shared a draft strategy to prioritize districts based on positivity rate (rapid antigen testing) and technical inputs to enhance testing in priority districts. India’s testing capacity is continually growing, currently it is testing more than 700,000 samples in a day and a test rate of 17,926 tests per million population and test positivity rate (cumulative) of 9.0%, details here.
TOP 15 STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES

![Bar chart showing top 15 states and union territories by COVID-19 cases, recoveries, and deaths as of 10/08/2020.]

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO published two new documents on the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access Facility - one outlines global procurement for COVID-19 vaccines and the other focuses on insuring accelerated vaccine development and manufacturing (Link)
2. WHO has published a scientific brief on estimating mortality from COVID-19, the brief discusses the limitations and difficulties in interpreting the case fatality ratio of COVID-19, and potential biases that could arise in ascertaining mortality (Link)
3. MoHFW Guidelines for international arrivals (in supersession of guidelines issued on the subject dated 24th May 2020) (to be operational from 00.01 Hrs, 8th August 2020) (Link)
4. MoHFW COVID-19 Pandemic and Tobacco Use in India (Link)

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WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- PM launched High Throughput COVID testing facilities at Kolkata, Mumbai and Noida, these hi-tech state-of-the-art testing facilities will boost the testing capacity by almost 10,000 daily tests (Link)
- MoHFW announced the successful completion of first Pan India 1000 Genome sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 and launched a network of five dedicated COVID-19 Biorepositories established by Department of Biotechnology in record time (Link)
- Group of Ministers (GOM) on COVID-19 agreed to the proposal of MoHFW to allow the export of made-in-India ventilators (Link)
- Department of Science and Technology (DST), has selected Bangalore based startup Acculi Labs to develop a COVID risk assessment profile armed with ‘Lyfas’ a clinical-grade, non-invasive, digital functional biomarker smartphone tool for screening, early detection, root cause analysis, acute event risk assessment, prognosis, and home monitoring of chronic diseases repurposed to Lyfas COVID score (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As on 2 August 2020, 08:00 IST there were 567,730 Active Cases, 1,145,629 Cured/Discharged, 1 Migrated and 37,364 Deaths in India. India’s Case Fatality Rate (CFR) is its lowest at 2.15% since 1st Lockdown; Total recoveries nearly 11 lakh; and more than 36,500 recovered in last 24 hours details here.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- 4th meeting of the International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005) Emergency Committee regarding COVID-19 was convened by the WHO Director-General declared that the outbreak of COVID-19 continues to constitute a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC); recommendations from the Emergency Committee highlight the need for response efforts to continue over the long term, details here.
- IHR Committee advised countries to support these research efforts, including through funding, and to join in efforts to allow equitable allocation of diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines by engaging in the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator among other initiatives, details here.
- This World Breastfeeding Week, WHO and UNICEF are calling on governments to protect and promote women’s access to skilled breastfeeding counselling, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, and find innovative solutions to ensure that access to these essential services is not disrupted, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- Co-ordination: WCO continues to provide technical advice to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) and support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC.
- State Updates: Across states, WCO continues to provide technical support to state and districts to train frontline workers (ASHAs/ANMs) on IPC, contact tracing, screening of high-risk population, ILI/SARI surveillance and addressing mental health issues. Key updates include:
  - Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC), Gujarat, in collaboration with WCO, UNICEF and Indian Institute of Public Health to conduct operational research for estimation of COVID-19 prevalence
  - In Kerala, WCO is part of the newly set-up district program management and support unit that will focus on proper management of admission of patients and bed/ICU availability for high burden districts - Trivandrum, Ernakulam, Kozhikode, Malappuram and Kannur.
  - WCO continues to participate in the review meetings led by the state officials in Delhi on monitoring COVID related activities in the containment zones
- Infection Prevention and Control (IPC): WCO is supporting district level orientations in medical colleges on IPC in Healthcare Facilities and introduction of WHO IPC Monitoring Tool. This week, first workshop in Vijayanagar Institute of Medical sciences, Ballari was conducted.
- WHO Solidarity trial to help find an effective treatment for COVID-19, is underway in India. WHO India is providing technical and operational support for the implementation of Trial. These include provision of oversight, facilitating regulatory approvals, developing training modules, undertaking clinical trial site trainings, facilitating adverse event reporting among others.
- Laboratory testing: Overall, India has tested 1,98,21,831 samples to date with 4,63,172 samples tested on 1 August alone, details here. WCO and ICMR are working on preparing technical guidance on one-gene target testing for COVID-19 and its limitations.
ACTIVE CASES IN TOP TWENTY CITIES/DISTRICT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Deceased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>136716</td>
<td>20731</td>
<td>31946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>115331</td>
<td>37760</td>
<td>66345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>94564</td>
<td>12439</td>
<td>2175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td>91930</td>
<td>8922</td>
<td>2137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmedabad</td>
<td>57396</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>22353</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Godavari</td>
<td>21271</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>18081</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raigarh</td>
<td>16955</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palghar</td>
<td>15928</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anantapur</td>
<td>15087</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North 24</td>
<td>15739</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guntur</td>
<td>15680</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>15058</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>15272</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aurangabad</td>
<td>15029</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Chengalpattu</td>
<td>14866</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thiruvallur</td>
<td>14128</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Delhi included for comparison  Data Source: MOH & State's bulletins, As of 02/08/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO Water, sanitation, hygiene, and waste management for SARS-CoV-2 (Link)
2. WHO target product profiles for COVID-19 therapeutics (Link)
3. WHO interim guidance on Considerations for implementing mass treatment, active case-finding and population-based surveys for neglected tropical diseases in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic (Link)
4. MoHFW Guidelines for international arrivals (in supersession of guidelines issued on the subject dated 24th May 2020) (to be operational from 00.01 Hrs, 8th August 2020) (Link)
5. MoHFW COVID-19 Pandemic and Tobacco Use in India (Link)

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HIGHLIGHTS

• Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to launch high throughput COVID-19 testing facilities on 27th July via video conferencing to ramp up testing capacity in the country and help in strengthening early detection and treatment (Link)
• Health Minister shared India’s novel COVID-19 containment strategy at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization health minister’s digital meet (Link)
• CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Technology developed a cost-effective process to synthesize Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient for Favipiravir in the country (Link)
• ‘e-ICU’ video-consultation program of AIIMS Delhi to strengthen COVID-19 response of ICU doctors has covered 43 institutions across 11 states (Link)
• Compendium of state level actions and inputs from field offices on the COVID preparedness and responses now publicly available (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As on 26 July 2020, 08:00 IST there were 467,882 Active Cases, 885,576 Cured/Discharged, 1 Migrated and 32,063 Deaths in India. This is the highest ever recovery registers in a single day with over 36,000 patients discharges. With a new high recovery rate of 64% details here

WHO Situation Update 187

India
1 336 861 Confirmed Cases
31 358 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region
1 678 994 Confirmed Cases
37 050 Total Deaths

World
15 581 009 Confirmed Cases
635 173 Deaths
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO released a set of practical steps for implementing the prescriptions of the WHO Manifesto for a healthy recovery from COVID-19 with the aim to create a healthier, fairer and greener world while investing to maintain and resuscitate the economy hit by the effects of the pandemic, details here.
- COVID-19 Law Lab initiative- a joint project of UNDP, WHO, UNAIDS and the O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University was launched to gather and share legal documents from over 190 countries across the world to help states establish and implement strong legal frameworks to manage the pandemic, details here.
- WHO has provided Four Early Investigation Protocols (rebranded the WHO Unity Studies) designed to rapidly and systematically collect and share data in a format that facilitates aggregation, tabulation and analysis across different settings globally, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Co-ordination:** WCO continues to provide technical advice to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group). WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC.
- **Risk Communications:** WCO is supporting MoHFW and NITI to amplify the evidence-based messaging around 15 appropriate COVID behaviours and workplace adjustments.
- **State Updates:** Across states, WCO continues to provide technical support to state and districts to train frontline workers (ASHAs/ANMs) on IPC, contact survey, screening of high-risk population, ILI/SARI surveillance and addressing mental health. Key highlights include:
  - Delhi continues to report a decreasing trend of cases. COVID Seroprevalence study was conducted by NCDC, samples collected from 27 June to 10 July 2020 by COVID Kavach ELISA in all 11 districts and 23.48% found positive with adjusted rate of 22.86%; 77.14% population remains susceptible. Emphasis on non-pharmacological (NPI) and IPC interventions needs to be sustained in Delhi.
  - WCO supported Bihar with block-level epidemiological cases analysis to undertake strategic revisions. State faces dual burden with of floods and COVID cases.
  - In Assam WHO facilitated reorientation training for all District Drug store pharmacists of all the Districts on Nikshay Aashaadha.
- **Essential Services:** WCO field teams have initiated support for essential health services through the India Hypertension Control Initiative and Routine Immunization through NPS field team. Health workers and population level compliance to NPI and IPC is being monitored and encouraged at all levels.
- **Laboratory testing:** Overall, India has tested 162,91,331 samples to date with 4,42,263 samples tested on 25th July alone, details here. WCO and ICMR are working on preparing technical guidance on one-gene target testing for COVID-19 and its limitations.
ACTIVE CASES IN TOP TEN CITIES/DISTRICT

Top 20 districts for cumulative cases, active cases & deaths
(as on 26 July 2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confirmed</th>
<th>Active</th>
<th>Deceased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>35862</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>111160</td>
<td>22904</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thane</td>
<td>7628</td>
<td>1392</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pune</td>
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<td>8247</td>
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<td>Bengaluru</td>
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<td>Ahmedabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kolkata</td>
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<td>Kharagpur</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raipur</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palghar</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Godavari</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aurangabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>North 24</td>
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<td>4687</td>
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<td>North 12</td>
<td>3577</td>
<td>4687</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinglepattu</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kollam</td>
<td>3597</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrissur</td>
<td>3672</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare & State’s bulletins Updated: 26/07/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO Guidance for conducting a country COVID-19 intra-action review (IAR) (Link)
2. WHO Practical actions in cities to strengthen preparedness for the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond (Link)
3. WHO Draft landscape of COVID-19 candidate vaccines (Link)
4. MoHFW Advisory on COVID Appropriate behaviors (Link)
5. MoHFW Video Patients, their families and health care providers stand together to counter stigma and discrimination associated with COVID19 (Link)
6. MoHFW Document on Caring for Health Care Warriors Mental Health Support During COVID-19 (Link)
7. ICMR Guidance to States and UTs for District wise login credentials for rapid antigen testing for COVID 19 (Link)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline here.
WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Department of Biotechnology’s supported COVID-19 vaccine ZyCoV-D, begins phase I/II clinical trials, becoming the first COVID-19 vaccine being developed indigenously to be administered to humans in India (Link)
- Considering the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on country’s health system, the 15th Finance Commission to include a separate chapter on health in its final report to the Government (Link)
- A subsidiary of Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research launched indigenous molecular probes used in RT-PCR COVID-19 detection kits (Link)
- National Research Development Corporation transferred two COVID-19 technologies related to active respirator mask and long lasting nano sanitizer for mass production in the country (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As on 19 July 2020, 08:00 IST there were 373,379 Active Cases, 677,422 Cured/Discharged, 1 Migrated and 26,816 Deaths in India, details here.

WHO Situation Update 180

India
1 038 716 Confirmed Cases
26 273 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region
1 347 954 Confirmed Cases
32 907 Total Deaths

World
13 876 441 Confirmed Cases
593 087 Deaths

COVID-19 Timeline for 1 million cases top 3 countries

Source: WHO Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Dashboard Updated: 19th July 2020, 10:00 am IST
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- 75 countries have submitted expressions of interest to protect their populations and those of other nations through joining the COVAX Facility, a mechanism designed to guarantee rapid, fair and equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines worldwide. The goal of COVAX is to deliver two billion doses of safe, effective vaccines that have passed regulatory approval and/or WHO prequalification., details here.
- WHO is supporting ongoing vaccination efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic by providing knowledge and assistance to immunization programmes worldwide and helping countries as they balance the threat of COVID-19 with the threat of vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks and related-deaths., details here.
- WHO updated the risk assessment tools for mass gatherings, religious gatherings, and mass gatherings during sports events to guide authorities and planning and event organizers during the current COVID-19 pandemic, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Co-ordination:** WCO continues to provide technical advice to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group). WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC.

- **State Updates:** Across states, WCO continues to provide technical support to state and districts to train frontline workers (ASHAs/ANMs) on IPC, contact survey, screening of high-risk population, ILI/SARI surveillance and addressing mental health. Key highlights include: -
  
  - **Delhi** Secretariat was provided with additional support for epidemiological assessment of surge capacity to further support COVID preparedness and responses even as daily cases decline. WCO in partnership with UNHCR set-up 14 foot-operated hand washing stations (500 liters) along with soap dispensers at Sardar Patel COVID Care Hospital (SPCCH), world’s largest COVID care hospital. WCO is also supporting training on surveillance and IPC at SPCCH and another 1000 bedded facility by Défense Research Development Organization.
  
  - **Karnataka** – WCO conducted a virtual training on Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) in Healthcare Facilities - IPC Monitoring Tool (developed by WCO) was introduced to all state level Deputy Directors supervising DCHC and DCH, DHOs, District Surgeons and DSOs, District FW officers and District Consultant for Quality Assurance from all districts, Microbiologist/Pathologist (Nodal officer for IPC), Nursing superintendent, District Hospital Quality Managers from all District Hospitals.
  
  - **Uttar Pradesh**, WCO is supporting in micro planning for containment activities and monitoring of house to house survey for ILI screening. As of 17th July, a total 1,25,47,125 houses have been covered and 7,780 symptomatic found so far.

- **Laboratory testing:** Starting from one diagnostic lab for COVID-19 testing in Jan 2020, the country now has 1244 operational laboratories (880 government and 364 private). Overall, India has tested 1,37,91,869 samples with 3,58,127 of samples tested on 18th July alone, details here.
ACTIVE CASES IN TOP TEN CITIES/DISTRICT

 ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO interim checklist for local authorities on Practical actions in cities to strengthen preparedness for the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond (link)
2. WHO interim guidance on Strengthening preparedness for COVID-19 in cities and urban settings (link)
3. MoHFW Advisory for Gated Residential Complexes with regards to COVID-19 (link)
4. MoHFW Document on Caring for Health Care Warriors Mental Health Support During COVID-19 (link)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime Minister reviewed the COVID-19 situation in the country and appreciated the concerted efforts made in Delhi by the Centre, State and local authorities (Link)
- Through ‘Test, Trace, Treat’ strategy, India has operationalized more than 1100 COVID testing labs and tested more than 10 million samples (Link)
- On the occasion of World Population Day, the Union Health Minister (HM) stressed the need of providing reproductive health services during COVID-19 pandemic (Link)
- The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has allowed restricted emergency use of Itolizumab in moderate to severe COVID-19 patients (Link)
- AIIMS, Delhi has initiated Tele-Consultation guidance for doctors in states on COVID-19 clinical management (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As on 12 July 2020, 08:00 IST there were 292,258 Active Cases, 534,629 Cured/Discharged, 1 Migrated and 22,674 Deaths in India. Collective and focused efforts of containment and management of COVID-19 by center and the States/UTs have led to rise in recovered cases among COVID-19 patients (figure below) details here.

WHO Situation Update 174

India
849,553 Confirmed Cases
22,674 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region
1,130,247 Confirmed Cases
28,640 Total Deaths

World
12,552,765 Confirmed Cases
561,617 Deaths

Source: MoHFW Government of India COVID-19 Last updated on: 12/07/2020, 8 AM
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO acknowledges 'evidence emerging' of airborne spread of COVID-19, details here.
- WHO Director-General announced the establishment of the Independent panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response (IPPR) to evaluate the world’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic., details here.
- WHO encourages Member States to invest in and build longer-term health emergency preparedness during the COVID-19 pandemic, details here.
- WHO experts travel to China to work together with their Chinese counterparts to prepare scientific plans for identifying the zoonotic source of the SARS-COV-2 virus, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Co-ordination:** WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC and provide technical advice to MoHFW through JMG (joint monitoring).
- **WHO Solidarity Trial:** Chirayu Hospital, Karnataka in India has the top recruiting sites under the global trial supported by WHO.
- **State Updates:** Highlights from high-burden states
  - **Delhi:** WCO is supporting state in conducting a survey on ILI/SARI in containment zone and capacity building of doctors, nurses, sanitation workers etc on COVID-19 and IPC at 10,000 bedded Jumbo facility. Order has been issued regarding adoption of Test-Track-Treat strategy and Delhi Govt dispensaries and polyclinics will do rapid antigen detection test from 9 am to 12 pm on weekdays.
  - **Karnataka:** WCO field officers participated in review meeting chaired by Chief Minister on COVID-19 response and shared suggestions, provided follow up support to Government in preparation of SOPs and Guidelines for the field.
  - **Maharashtra:** WHO field team is involved in the programmatic review and supporting Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai for monitoring of containment zones, review of contact tracing data and supervision of IPC practices in the fever clinics. Data analysis support to health post staff through on job training and technical support to Municipal Corporation officials to develop lab algorithm for rapid COVID Ag testing is ongoing.
  - **Gujarat:** Support to Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation for analysis of death audits and analysis of household transmission in view of high mortality rate of the area.
  - **Uttar Pradesh:** Applying lessons from Polio Surveillance, WCO is supporting house-to-house surveillance covering nearly 11lakh households to supplement efforts made by ASHA workers and increasing accuracy in case detection and in addition promoting hygiene and positive behaviour.
- **Laboratory testing:** WHO continues to support ICMR in increasing the testing capacity of the country supplementing with 5.4lakh PCR kits. Overall, India has tested 1,15,87,153 samples with test rate of 8,449 tests per million population and test positivity rate (cumulative) of 7.3%, day-wise test positivity is 10.2% of samples tested, details here.
STATEWISE COVID CASES – FOCUS ON TOP 5 STATES

Cases in top 5 States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>36,216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>40,941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>110,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamilnadu</td>
<td>134,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>246,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cases across states

Source: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Last updated on: 12/07/2020, 8 AM

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO guidance on maintaining safe and adequate blood supply during the pandemic. (link)
2. WHO scientific brief on Transmission of SARS-CoV-2: implications for infection prevention precautions (link)
3. WHO Report from the WHO Advisory Group on Human Challenge Studies – draft for public comments (link)
4. MoHFW Mental Health in the times of COVID-19 Pandemic Guidance for General Medical and Specialized Mental Health Care Settings (link)

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HIGHLIGHTS

Prime Minister Office reviewed planning and preparations for vaccination against Covid-19 details here. With the announcement of COVAXIN by Bharat Biotech and ZyCov-D Vaccine by Zydus Cadila, Drug Controller General - CDSCO (The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization) approved human trials for the vaccines, details here.

Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) issued guidelines for Unlock 2 to open up of activities in areas outside the Containment Zones into effect from July 1, 2020, details here.

Removal of obstructions paves the way for ramped up COVID-19 testing as Private Practitioner can also prescribe a COVID-19 test. Government of India reiterated that ‘test-track-treat’ is the key strategy for early detection and containment of the pandemic, details here.

INDIA SITUATION

As on 05 July 2020, 08:00 IST there were 244,814 Active Cases, 409,082 Cured/Discharged, 1 Migrated and 19,268 Deaths in India. Collective and focused efforts of containment and management of COVID-19 by center and the States/UTs have led to rise in recovered cases among COVID-19 patients (figure below) details here.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO accepted the recommendation from the Solidarity Trial’s International Steering Committee to discontinue the trial’s hydroxychloroquine and lopinavir/ritonavir arms, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **Co-ordination:** WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC and provide technical advice to MoHFW through JMG (joint monitoring).
- **Partnership:** WHO and Partners are supporting States to increase their level of preparedness, alert and response to identify, manage and care for new cases of COVID-19.
  - Each state is assessing its risk and rapidly implementing necessary measures at the appropriate scale to reduce both COVID-19 transmission and economic, public and social impacts.
- **State Updates:** States across India have planned independent SARS-CoV-2 seroprevalence study (Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Delhi, Odisha etc.) after the national sero-survey by ICMR
  - **Delhi:** WCO is supporting state in setting up containment centers, currently 16,129 persons are under home isolation. All District Magistrates directed to ensure that all COVID-19 patient under home isolation have pulse oximeter. Chief Minister inaugurated India’s first plasma bank at Institute of Liver & Biliary Sciences.
  - **Maharashtra:** Mumbai Municipal Corporation (MCGM) launched Mission Zero COVID using 50 mobile dispensary vans. 1476 out of every 1 million people in Maharashtra have tested positive for the virus. Case fatality rate (CFR) is 4.4% and doubling rate is 21 days. For the last week, state reported about 5000 cases daily on an average with an average growth of 3% per day.
  - **Kerala:** State has initiated Mobile Medical and surveillance units in all 14 districts to reach out to difficult geographical areas in view of surge in communicable diseases with onset of monsoon. Malappuram district has enforced lockdown in view of high number of contacts
  - **Uttar Pradesh:** About 160,000 ASHAs were trained with state and WCO field support that have tracked over 3,000,000 migrant returnees in Uttar Pradesh. MoHFW appreciated their role in contact tracing and surveillance for migrants.
- **RMNCAH:** WHO collaborating Centers have come together to standardize the reporting and management of COVID-19 and pregnancy across 20 high case-load facilities across the country.
- **Laboratory testing:** WHO continues to support ICMR in increasing the testing capacity of the country. ICMR has tested a total of 97,89,066 samples and in the last 24 hours 2,481,934 details here.
STATEWISE COVID CASES AND DEATHS PER MILLION

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO interim guidance on infection prevention and control strategies during health care of suspects or confirmed COVID-19 patients (link)
2. WHO health advisory for critical preparedness for cyclones, tropical storms, tornadoes, floods and earthquakes during the pandemic (link)
3. MoHFW Mental Health in the times of COVID-19 Pandemic Guidance for General Medical and Specialized Mental Health Care Settings (link)
5. Hindi Videos on supporting COVID recovered patients (link); extending support towards persons returning home during COVID-19 (link) and showing respect to healthcare workers (link)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

MoHFW issued updated clinical management protocol for managing COVID-19 cases, advising Dexamethasone as an alternative to Methylprednisolone for moderate to severe cases, details here. PM CARES Fund Trust has allocated Rs. 2000 crore for supply of 50000 ‘Made-in-India’ ventilators to government run COVID hospitals in all States/UTs. Further, a sum of Rs. 1000 crore has been allocated for the welfare of migrant labourers, details here.

Health Minister launched ‘eBloodServices’ mobile App developed by Indian Red Cross Society (ICRS) who has also done record procurement of 1,00,000+ units blood during COVID-19 crisis, details here. Government of India, has established a state-of-the-art COVID Diagnostic Training Centre and crash course in molecular diagnosis of infectious diseases focusing on COVID-19 to help build capacity at Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), Jakkur campus, details here.

INDIA SITUATION

As on 28 June 2020, 08:00 IST there were 203,051 Active Cases, 309,712 Cured/ Discharged, 1 Migrated and 16,095 Deaths in India, details here. Gap between recoveries and active cases has crossed 1,00,000 and recovered cases have exceeded the active cases by 106,661 as of today, details here.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• WHO updated the interim guidance for critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19 for countries, details here.
• International Olympic Committee and WHO, together with the United Nations, launched a partnership to encourage individuals and communities around the world to be #HEALTHYTogether, details here.
• WHO has published the ACT-Accelerator Investment Case, emphasizing that “vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics are vital tools – but to be truly effective they must be administered with another essential ingredient, which is solidarity”, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19.

• Co-ordination: WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC. WCO continues to provide technical advice to MoHFW through JMG (joint monitoring).
  o On UN Public Service Day (23 June), UN honored Kerala state Health Minister Ms. Shylaja for her leadership in the Nipah virus and Covid-19 response.
• RCCE: WHO and National Institute of Disaster Management to conduct series of webinars on COVID. ICMR and WHO India organized a joint webinar on Ethics Review for Biomedical Projects during the COVID 19 pandemic. RCCE Partners meeting discussed the results from the urban slum pilot survey led by WCO.
• State Updates: States across India have planned independent SARS-CoV-2 seroprevalence study (Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Delhi, Odisha etc.) after the national sero-survey by ICMR
  o Delhi: 10 thousand bedded Jumbo COVID Care Centre at Radha swami Satsang Beas in South district is under preparation. Indo Tibetan Border Police and Border Security Force shall provide 1000 doctors and 2000 paramedical staff to manage this facility.
  o Andhra Pradesh has planned to test all families in the state for COVID-19 in coming three months.
  o Madhya Pradesh WCO is part of the new technical advisory group, set up by Government to discuss the current testing, quarantine/isolation and clinical guidelines being adhered in the state
  o Tamil Nadu WCO is providing necessary data and evidence on AFP/MR/DPT surveillance activities in non-containment areas in addition to COVID-related support.
  o Uttar Pradesh: As part of containment activity, Uttar Pradesh covered more than 10 million houses and screened 50 million individuals
  o Assam initiated a unique initiative to set up COVID Counselling Centers (CCC) in all the wards under Guwahati Municipal Corporation area
• IPC Tool: WCO has finalized IPC monitoring tool/checklist for Dedicated COVID Health Centre (DCHC) and COVID Care Centre (CCC). WCO would be organizing series of webinar to orient the IPC focal points in COVID health facilities and state health departments for using these in their health facilities.
• Laboratory testing: WHO continues to support ICMR in increasing the testing capacity of the country by delivering the first shipment of 350,000 tests of BGI diagnostics kits. ICMR has tested a total of 82,27,802 samples and in the last 24 hours 2,31,095, details here.
STATEWISE DEATH AND RECOVERY RATES

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO interim guidance on rapid hospital readiness and an accompanying checklist tool, available here.
2. WHO interim guidance on biomedical equipment for COVID-19 case management and an accompanying inventory tool, available here.
3. WHO weekly update feature ‘chasing the virus’ story from Dharavi India, details here.
4. MoHFW A/V on COVID Appropriate Behaviors – available (1/5), (2/5), (3/5), (4/5) & (5/5)

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HIGHLIGHTS

Maharashtra government and Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) have shown encouraging results, actively ‘chasing the virus’ and aggressively doing targeted tracing of COVID suspects, details here.

Centre lauded the best practices from Karnataka for COVID-19 management which includes the comprehensive contact tracing of covering more than 1.5 crore households; mandatory “Seva Sindhu” portal and ‘Quarantine Watch App’ is to assist the field, details here.

Health Minister launched India’s First Mobile I-LAB (Infectious Disease Diagnostic Lab) for COVID-19 testing to be deployed in remote and inaccessible areas of the country, details here.

Government of India and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) signed a $750 million “COVID-19 Active Response and Expenditure Support Programme” to mitigate impacts of the pandemic on poor and vulnerable households, details here.

INDIA SITUATION

As on 21 June 2020, 08:00 IST there were 169,451 Active Cases, 227,755 Cured/ Discharged, 1 Migrated and 13,254 Deaths in India, details here. During the last 24 hours, a total of 13,925 COVID-19 patients have been cured, recovery rate has further improved to 55.49% amongst COVID-19 patients.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO welcomes initial clinical trial results from the United Kingdom that show dexamethasone can be lifesaving for patients who are critically ill with COVID-19. Treatment was shown to reduce mortality by about one third, and for patients who only require oxygen, mortality was cut by about one fifth, details here.
- Data shows that hydroxychloroquine does not result in the reduction of mortality of hospitalized COVID-19 patients, when compared with standard of care. The hydroxychloroquine arm of the Solidarity Trial, which seeks to find an effective COVID-19 treatment, is being stopped based on evidence from the Solidarity Trial, the UK’s Recovery trial and a Cochrane review of other evidence on hydroxychloroquine, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19.

- **Co-ordination:** WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC. WCO continues to provide technical advice to MoHFW through JMG (joint monitoring). WCO and ICMR are jointly hosting a webinar on ethics review of bio-medical projects during a pandemic.
- **RCCE:** NITI Aayog has set up a “dashboard” on COVID appropriate behaviour for all sectors as part of the post lockdown phase, WHO is part of the committee that is leading this effort. Series of webinars on stigma and discrimination during COVID-19 were jointly organized by WHO, UNICEF, Ministry of health and Civil Society.
- **State Updates:**
  - **North:** Delhi State has withdrawn its earlier order declaring nursing homes with 10-49 beds as COVID nursing homes, as well as mandatory institutional quarantine measures. WHO is supporting state in House to House Survey in Containment Zones of the Districts with the help of ‘Assess KaroNa app’.
  - **South:** With resumption of essential services, WCO is supporting to build capacity of state counterparts to address AFP, MR and DPT surveillance and submitted a comprehensive improvement plan on for the TB programme.
  - **North-East region:** WCO continues to support states for deployment of the added Truenat™ CoV machines in the districts to enhance testing in hard-to-reach areas.
  - **West:** Mumbai has requested WHO’s support to expand Sero-survey in additional select Districts. Municipality has also installed a jumbo oxygen tank at National Sport Complex (NSCI) Worli, a makeshift COVID hospital facility.
- **Surveillance:** In the Sentinel Surveillance Volume 2 on COVID-19 released last week by the Kerala Government, the Health Minister and the Principal secretary have duly acknowledged WHO support.
  - WHO supported graphical illustration of data from COVID-19 cases in India with age, gender and geographical distribution is now publicly available on NCDC India website, details here.
- **Data:** Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, MoHFW and WHO organized a webinar on correct use Medical Certification of Cause of Death in the context of COVID-19 deaths, attended by over 500 clinicians.
- **Laboratory testing:** WHO continues to support ICMR in increasing the testing capacity of the country. ICMR has tested a total of 68,07,226 samples and in the last 24 hours 1,90,730, details here.
STATEWISE DEATH AND RECOVERY RATES

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO Criteria for releasing COVID-19 patients from isolation – scientific brief available here.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline here.
WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
**HIGHLIGHTS**

High-level Group of Ministers (GoM) on COVID-19 chaired by Dr. Harsh Vardhan, highlighted the need for strengthening human resource for contact tracing; logistics enhancement while ensuring support and transport for healthcare workers; and strengthening Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) activities, details [here](#).

Central Teams are being deputed to provide technical support to State Health Departments and Municipal Health Officials to review public health measures being undertaken for COVID-19 in six cities with the highest burden - Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Kolkata, Delhi and Bengaluru, details [here](#).

States have been advised to ensure focus on essential health services and to utilize the network of more than 3,775 centres Ayushman Bharat- Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) which are functional across the State. details [here](#).

**INDIA SITUATION**

As on 14 June 2020, 08:00 IST there were 149,348 Active Cases, 162,378 Cured/ Discharged, 1 Migrated and 9,195. Deaths in India, details [here](#). During the last 24 hours, MoHFW reported total of 4,611 COVID-19 patients cured, with recovery rate of 48.20% amongst COVID-19 patients, all active cases are under medical supervision.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHO Situation Update 145</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>India</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>308,993 Confirmed Cases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8,884 Total Deaths</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>South East Asia Region</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>439,348 Confirmed Cases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12,126 Total Deaths</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>World</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7,553,182 Confirmed Cases</td>
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<tr>
<td>423,349 Deaths</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Source: WHO Situation Reports as received by WHO from national authorities by 10:00 CEST, 14th June 2020
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO clarified in press briefing that asymptomatic people can transmit COVID-19, but that we need more research to establish the extent of asymptomatic transmission. That research is ongoing, and we’re seeing more and more research being done, details here.
- WHO is following up with Chinese authorities about a cluster of COVID-19 cases in Beijing, China. As of 13 June, 41 symptomatic laboratory confirmed cases and 46 laboratory confirmed cases without symptoms of COVID-19 have been identified in Beijing, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19.

- **Co-ordination:** WCO personnel have been deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC on request of MoHFW. WCO continues to provide technical advice and support to MoHFW through the JMG including revision of clinical management protocol for COVID-19.
- **Partnership:** WHO convened the 16th Health Partners meetings, more than 60 representatives from donor/UN organizations attended. Key discussions focused on COVID-19 situation in India and in Delhi and update on food security and nutrition.
- **State Updates:** States/UTs with active cases are being actively monitored by the CMs and senior officials. WHO continues to support all 35 States/UTs, with focus on high burden cities.
  - **North:** Delhi has conducted nearly 3million tests and the State has 9714 dedicated COVID beds (5449 occupied), 606 ICU/ventilator beds (385 occupied). 222 areas have been declared containment zones. The state ordered all nursing homes in Delhi with 10-49 beds as COVID nursing homes, with some exemptions (maternity/ IVF centers, ENT/Eye hospitals and Dialysis centers).
  - **South:** Chennai – WHO continues to support the six zones and other high case load districts in containment planning, capacity building and control room guidance. State and district level activity to review the HMIS and KCR Kit data and routine immunization monitoring has started.
  - **West:** Maharashtra – Municipal Commissioner has released a circular about decentralized hospital bed management/allotment and comprehensive policy for COVID 19 testing, whereby labs to ensure results to reach EPID cell within 24 hrs. Fever clinics continue to provide services to community.
- **Surveillance** WCO is supporting MoHFW in uploading and data cleaning of Case Investigation Forms (CIF). Till date around 60,000 records have been uploaded in IDSP-IHIP portal.
  - WCO is in discussion with WHO collaborative centres for undertaking multicentric surveillance for documentation of pregnant women with COVID infection - clinical characteristics and outcome.
- **Laboratory testing:** ICMR has tested a total of 56,58,614 samples have been tested as on 14 June 2020, 9 AM IST. Number of samples tested in 24 hours 1,51,432, details here. WHO continues to support ICMR in increasing the testing capacity of the country:
  - Laboratory test methodology for detecting SARS-CoV2 in sewage has been standardized
  - NIV Pune and NCDC have achieved 100 % score in global EQAS panel
STATEWISE RECOVERY AND DEATH RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Recovery Rate (%)</th>
<th>Case Fatality (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
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<td>Telangana</td>
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<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
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<td>Andaman &amp; Nicobar</td>
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<td>Arunachal Pradesh</td>
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Source: MoHFW and ICMR (Updated on 14th June 2020, 08:00 AM)

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. **WHO AIIMS- Telemedicine series for Obstetrics and Gynecology** – so far 4 sessions with over 10,000 views on YouTube - available [here](#).
2. **WHO Guidelines on use of chest imaging** in acute care of adult patients with suspected, probable or confirmed COVID-19 – available [here](#).
3. **WHO Technical specifications for Pressure Swing Adsorption(PSA) Oxygen Plants** - minimum requirements for PSA Oxygen Plant for use for the administration of medical-grade oxygen – available [here](#).
4. **WHO Medical certification, ICD mortality coding, and reporting mortality with COVID-19** – available [here](#).
5. WHO has released updated FAQs, videos and infographics on appropriate use of medical and non-medical masks for control of COVID-19 – available [here](#).
6. WHO published 14 new community and risk engagement posters on parenting: details [here](#).

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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HIGHLIGHTS

Prime Minister addressed the virtual Global Vaccine Summit 2020, where he reiterated India’s commitment and proven capacity to produce quality medicines and vaccines at low cost, and pledged 15 Million US Dollars to GAVI, the international vaccine alliance details here.

Expanding the COVID-19 response, India announced Four Pillared Strategy for boosting Medical Care and Essential Health Services in the country to improve health care, its infrastructure and its access to one and all, details here.

MoHFW issued guidelines for operation of offices, religious places, restaurants, shopping malls, hotels and other public places to ensure appropriate COVID preventive measures while allowing social and economic activity to resume as per GoI norms, details here.

INDIA SITUATION

As on 07 June 2020, 08:00 IST there were 120,406 Active Cases, 119,292 Cured/ Discharged, 1 Migrated and 6929 Deaths in India, details here. During the last 24 hours, MoHFW reported total of 4,611 COVID-19 patients cured, with recovery rate of 48.20% amongst COVID-19 patients, while all active cases are under medical supervision.

Source: WHO Situation Report 138; Data as received by WHO from national authorities by 10:00 CEST, 06 June 2020
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• WHO updated interim guidance on key planning recommendations for mass gatherings in the context of COVID-19, which reflects the evolution of the pandemic and the most recent WHO recommendations on COVID-19, details here.

• WHO released the new operational guidance on maintaining essential health services, with recommendations for practical actions that countries can take at national, sub-regional and local levels to reorganize and safely maintain access to high-quality, essential health services during the pandemic, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19.

• Co-ordination and partnership: National Institute of Disaster Management jointly organized with WCO a series of webinar on COVID-19 Global and National Perspective. WHO officials participated in a meeting of ICMR national task force for COVID-19 to revise clinical case management guidelines and a round table of FICCI to deliberate on the future strategy for COVID containment.

• State Updates: WHO officials are supporting in containment activities, its micro planning & monitoring, community surveillance, monitoring quarantine facilities, piloting of environmental surveillance, and hospital assessment. Feedback on various containment activities are shared regularly with officials at state and district levels. Highlights from few states as of 06.06.20:
  - North: Uttar Pradesh - Community surveillance has covered 8.4 million houses among nearly 42 million population and approx. 4200 symptomatic found so far. As of 7th June, total no. of migrants tracked 1,360,119 in UP among them 1,199 found symptomatic.
  - South: Tamil Nadu – Cumulative 900,000 persons put on quarantine of which 116,000 (56%) completed 28 days quarantine period and 93,000 contacts are currently under active quarantine including individuals at isolation wards across state. 120,000 primary and secondary contacts have been traced, approximately 5 per positive case.
  - West: Maharashtra - Containment activity: active case finder team in place catering to 7.1 Million population with 664 symptomatic cases found. 80% contact tracing completed in the state.
  - East Region: Odisha - Central Team headed by Joint Secretary reviewed the COVID-19 situation and appreciated the “Mentoring Support Program” which is successfully rolled out in collaboration of State and WHO along with other Public Health Partners.

• Surveillance: WHO officials are also supporting capacity building of government officials in select States on SARI/ILI surveillance and community surveillance. WCO is also supporting ICMR and States in planning and training and implementation of sero-survery- sample collection for sero-survery is completed in 63/69 districts.

• Laboratory testing: ICMR has tested a total of 46, 66,386 of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) samples (07/06/2020 9:00 AM IST), details here, WHO continues to support ICMR in increasing the testing capacity of the country.

• Essential Services: WHO has initiated a rapid review of the availability of essential health services in 30 districts across 10 states with support from State government officials and WHO field Staff.
WHO ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

3. Interim guidance on considerations, opportunities and challenges of integrating digital tools into contact tracing methods – available here.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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HIGHLIGHTS

Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) issued new guidelines to fight COVID-19 and for **Unlock 1** - phased re-opening of areas outside the Containment Zones into effect from June 1, 2020 and would be effective till June 30, 2020, details [here](#).

ICMR advised States to conduct **sero-survey** to measure Coronavirus exposure in selected population using IgG ELISA Test. WHO to provide technical support to States/ UTs, in planning and carrying out sero-surveys (63/69 districts completed) details [here](#).

Health **infrastructure was ramped up** during the lockdown. WHO supported the assessment. As of 27.05.20, 930 dedicated COVID hospitals with 1,58,747 Isolation beds, 20,355 ICU beds and 69,076 Oxygen supported beds are available. 2,362 dedicated COVID Health Centres with 1,32,593 Isolation beds; 10,903 ICU beds and 45,562 Oxygen supported beds have been operationalized, details [here](#).

INDIA SITUATION

As on 31 May 2020, 08:00 IST there were 89,995 Active Cases, 86,983 Cured/ Discharged, 1 Migrated and 5,164 Deaths in India, details [here](#). Recovery rate has improved significantly with 47.40% amongst COVID-19 patients (on 30.05.20), an increase of 4.51% in the recovery rate from the previous day’s recovery rate of 42.89%.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO published interim guidance on the clinical management of COVID-19. This guidance document is intended for clinicians caring for COVID-19 patients during all phases of their disease, details here.
- The UN and WHO have urged governments around the world to take the mental health consequences of the pandemic seriously, and ensure widespread availability of mental health support, details here.
- The WHO Foundation has been established in Geneva to support WHO’s efforts to address critical global health challenges here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19.

- **National Updates:** WHO Representative had discussions with Health Secretary and CEO, NITI Ayog and advocated for enhancing COVID response in densely populated urban areas, providing flu vaccines for entire health workforce, and strengthening public health surveillance system, including the completion of case investigations forms (CIF).
- **Emergency Operations:** The EMR Division of MoHFW has set up an Emergency Operating Centre (EOC) to monitor response in 30 districts with highest COVID-19 cases in India. On MoHFW request, WCO personnel have been deployed to support the EoC.
- **State Updates:** WHO officials are supporting in the Containment survey activity, its micro planning and monitoring. Feedback and update of COVID 19 is shared regularly with officials at state and district levels.
- **Surveillance:** WHO officials are supporting capacity building of government officials in select States on SARI/ILI surveillance and community surveillance in some States. NITI Aayog has requested WCO field teams to support surveillance for the next 12 months.
  - In addition to contact tracing, planning, capacity building, and providing support to District Control Rooms and District Collectors.
  - WCO is also supporting planning and training of field teams on implementation of sero-survey sample collection for sero-survey is completed in 63/69 districts.
- **Laboratory testing:** A total of 37,37,027 samples have been tested for SARS-CoV-2, including 1,25,428 samples tested in 24 hours, status as of 31/05/2020 9:00 AM IST, details here.
- **Guidelines:** WHO along with WFP and UNICEF have developed a guidance document on food donations in the context of COVID-19 to promote healthy diets and ensuring safety.
  - WCO India and Indian Dental Association developed a guidance on Infection prevention and control during oral and dental healthcare when COVID-19 is suspected.
DISTRICT MAP OF COVID-19 CASES

Source: Updated on 30/05/2020. Data Source: State bulletins & https://www.covid19india.org/

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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Dr Harsh Vardhan, Minister of Health and Family Welfare, India, was elected the Chair of WHO Executive Board in the 73rd World Health Assembly. He will chair the 148\textsuperscript{th} session of the Executive Board in Jan 2021, details [here](#).

The period of the lockdown gainfully utilized to ramp up health system capacity and infrastructure in the country, details [here](#).

- 3027 dedicated COVID Hospitals and COVID Health Centres along with 7013 COVID Care Centres identified
- 2.81 lakh isolation beds, 31,250 ICU beds, and 1,09,888 oxygen supported beds identified in Dedicated COVID Hospitals and COVID Health Centres
- 65.0 lakh PPE coveralls and 101.07 lakh N95 masks supplied to the States with 3 lakh PPE coveralls and 3 lakh N95 masks manufactured per day by domestic producers
- WHO, India is supporting IMCR to conduct a community based sero-survey to estimate the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 infection in Indian population

Health Secretary held meeting to review measures for Covid-19 containment and management with 11 municipal areas that account for 70\% of India's active case load, details [here](#).

### INDIA SITUATION

As on 24 May 2020, 08:00 IST there were 73,560 Active Cases, 54,440 Cured/ Discharged, 1 Migrated and 3,867 Deaths in India, details [here](#).
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- The 73rd World Health Assembly (WHA), focusing on COVID-19 pandemic management, adopted a resolution for an independent and comprehensive evaluation of the international response to the pandemic.
  - WHA ended with a global commitment to the COVID-19 response. Delegates adopted a landmark resolution to bring the world together to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, details here.
- WHO signed an agreement with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to work together to promote health through sport and physical activity. The agreement has a special focus on preventing non-communicable diseases (NCDs), details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19.

- **Coordination and partnership:** Joint Monitoring Group under the Chairmanship of DGHS and including representatives from AIIMS, ICMR, NCDC, NDMA, WHO reviewed and issued several guidelines including Guidance note for Immunization services during and post COVID outbreak and Revised Strategy for COVID-19 testing in India.
- **Surveillance:** In addition to contact tracing, planning, capacity building, and providing support to District Control Rooms and District Collectors, WCO is also supporting accelerated implementation of SARI Surveillance in select states.
- **Laboratory testing:** On 18 May India reached a **landmark** by performing 100,000 tests in one day, starting from less than 100 tests per day just two months ago, overall 1000-fold increase in just 60 days. A total of 29,43,421 samples have been tested as on 24 May 2020, 9 AM IST, details here.
- **Risk communication and community engagement:** WCO supported a series of orientation workshops on stigma and discrimination for COVID-19 Helpline Operators and Radio Operators. ‘Community Preparedness Checklist’ was developed for use by Gram Panchayat/Village Health & Sanitation Committee for strengthening community preparedness for COVID-19.
- **Essential Services:** WCO to conduct rapid assessment of availability of essential health services in 10 States and 30 districts with support from the WHO Field Staff to capture the current situation and document local solutions adopted by districts to overcome access barrier to essential health services due to lockdown.
- **Travel:** Government of India MoHFW issued Guidelines for international arrivals and domestic travel (air/train/inter-state bus travel), details here.

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HIGHLIGHTS

- A high-level review meeting was held for 30 municipal areas which are contributing almost 80% of the country's Covid-19 cases, details here.
- NCDC is now equipped with the COBAS 6800, a fully automated, high-end machine for performing real-time PCR testing COVID-19 for high-quality, high-volume testing with a high throughput of test around 1200 samples in 24 hours, details here.
- “Compendium of Indian Technologies for Combating COVID-19 (Tracing, Testing and Treating)” prepared by National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) was launched, details here.
- States to focus on Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) among the people to address the stigma associated with community discrimination and ostracization in the community due to COVID-19, more effectively, details here.
- MoHFW has emphasized that along with the containment and management of COVID-19 cases, the issue of continuing all essential non-COVID health services need to be ensured, details here.

INDIA SITUATION

- As of 17 May 2020, 08:00 IST there were 53,946 Active Cases, 34,109 Recovered / Discharged/migrated and 2872 Deaths in India, details here.
- As of 14 May 2020, India has enhanced its testing capacity to conduct 1,00,000 tests per day, with more than 500 laboratories including 359 Government and 145 private in the country, details here.

Source: MoHFW and ICMR
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• WHO announced the launch of the WHO Academy and the WHO info mobile applications. The WHO Academy app is designed to support health workers during COVID-19 while the WHO Info app will provide the general public with real-time mobile access to the latest news and developments, details [here](#).
• WHO urged countries in the region to lift lockdown and travel restrictions in a graded manner and that local epidemiology should guide focused action in ‘new normal’ COVID-19 world, details [here](#).
• Early serological studies show that most of the population is still susceptible to COVID-19. Until there is a vaccine, the comprehensive package of measures is the most effective set of tools to control the virus.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19.

• Coordination and partnership: WCO participated in meetings with MoHFW divisions (EMR, IH, JMG), institutes (NCDC, ICMR), Empowered Groups and state authorities in 33 affected states/UTs. WCO is partnering with FICCI in preparing guide and SOPs for use in workplaces post lockdown. Response activities are closely monitored by CMs and senior officials.
• Surveillance: WHO Field teams are supporting ILI and SARI surveillance districts as per the government guidelines. WHO and partners have also been requested by MoHFW to assess 1600 Dedicated COVID Health Centre (DCHC), the assessment has begun.
• Hospital preparedness and IPC: WCO prepared a draft guidance for COVID-19 Screening in non-COVID-19 hospitals. A Webinar on IPC was led by WCO for private sector, this was attended by over 1300 participants from all parts of the country.
• Testing: ICMR-NIV, Pune has developed and validated a completely indigenous IgG ELISA test for antibody detection for SARS-CoV-2. On external validation, the IgG test kit produced by ICMR-NIV, has sensitivity and specificity of 98.7% and 100% respectively, details [here](#).
• Sero-Survey: ICMR with MoHFW and WHO is conducting a community based sero-survey to estimate the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 infection in Indian population - household level cross-sectional survey will cover 24,000 adults distributed equally across four strata of districts categorized based on reported cases of COVID-19, details [here](#).
• Research: ICMR has fast-tracked the roll out of the global ‘Solidarity’ trial launched by WHO and accelerate clinical trial in finding an effective treatment for COVID-19, details [here](#).
• Key Publication: WHO supported MoHFW EMR division in development of the “Preparedness and response to COVID-19 in Urban Settlements” document which delineates focus area that need to be addressed by the Urban Local Bodies for preparedness in slums and other crowded areas, details [here](#).

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- High level Group of Ministers (GoM) on COVID-19 held in depth deliberation on containment strategy and management aspects of COVID-19, as well as the measures being taken by the centre and various States especially as per Red Zone (130 Districts), Orange Zone (284 Districts) and Green Zone (319) Districts, details here.
- MoHFW has made efforts to ensure adequate health infrastructure and health facilities have been identified and set up for COVID-19 management in the country, details here.
- MoHFW to deploy Central teams to select states that have witnessed/are witnessing high case load and high spurt of cases. WHO to support teams and assist the State Health departments of respective states to facilitate management of COVID-19 outbreak, details here.
- WHO Field staff is supporting the States/UTs rapid preparedness assessment of Dedicated COVID Health Center here.

INDIA SITUATION

- As of 10 May 2020, 08:00 IST there were 41,472 Active Cases, 19,357 Cured / Discharged and 2109 Deaths in India, details here.
- As on 10/05/2020, 7740 facilities in 483 districts have been identified in all the States/UTs that include hospitals and facilities of the State/UT Govts as well as the central Govt, details here.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

India
- 62,939 Confirmed
- 2109 Deaths

South-East Asia
- 90,808 Confirmed
- 3,204 Deaths

Globally
- 3,855,788 Confirmed
- 265,862 Deaths

Confirmed Cases by District and Facility Preparedness for COVID

7740 facilities in 483 districts to support COVID
30,556 beds for confirmed cases
99,492 Oxygen supported beds
34,076 ICU beds

Source: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO updated the Country Preparedness and Response Status for COVID-19. This categorization would facilitate global planning process and support prioritization for countries here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures for COVID-19.

- **Coordination and partnership:** WHO provided inputs to develop the joint UN socio economic response plan for COVID-19. WHO continues dialogue with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) on private sector’s health activities for COVID-19.
- **Laboratory testing:** As of May 2020, 9 AM IST a total of 1,609,037 samples have been tested, details here. WHO is facilitating designation of a Government Laboratory in India as a Global Reference lab for COVID-19. ICMR is leading efforts on setting up on environmental surveillance and discussing with various agencies and states on initiating testing of sewage for SARS-CoV2.
- **Surveillance:** In addition to ILL and SARI surveillance in all the districts as per the government guidelines, WHO is also supporting to implementation of containment activities and microplanning in ‘Containment Zones’.
- **Research:** First 20 patients have been enrolled in WHO Solidarity Trial at several study sites in India. National serosurvey for COVID-19 is ready to be launched in coming week with coordination and technical support from WHO Central and field teams.
- **Hospital preparedness and IPC:** MoHFW, WHO, UNICEF and partners have assessed more than 600 dedicated COVID-19 hospitals. MoHFW has requested WHO, UNICEF and partners to assess 1600 dedicated COVID-19 health centres across the country. The assessment has started and will be completed within a week. WHO and various government agencies organized a webinar on IPC for private sector. It was attended by over 1300 participants from all parts of the country.
- **Risk communication and community engagement:** WHO supported MoHFW in conducting National Training of 1075 Call Centres for combating stigma related to COVID-19. WHO is supporting a week-long celebration of the International Day of the Midwife (5th May) to Nurses (12th May) in recognition and celebration of their work especially during the COVID-19 pandemic in India, details here.

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline here.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- After a comprehensive review, and in view of the Lockdown measures having led to significant gains in the COVID-19 situation in the country, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India (GoI) issued an Order under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 to further extend the Lockdown for a further period of 2 weeks with effect from May 4, 2020, details here.

- Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has issued an order to allow the movement of migrant workers, pilgrims, tourists, students and other persons, stranded at different places across the country, by special trains to be operated by Ministry of Railways (MoR), details here.

- WHO Field staff is supporting the States/UTs through the MoHFW to demarcate containment zones, implementing perimeter control, active search for cases through the house to house surveillance by special teams formed for the purpose, testing of all cases as per sampling guidelines, contact tracing and clinical management of all confirmed cases, details here.

INDIA SITUATION

- As of 03 May 2020, 5:00PM, a total of 10 887 people have been cured, recovery rate at 27%. The total number of confirmed cases is now 40 263, details here.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

India
- 40 263 Confirmed
- 1306 Deaths
- 32 States/UTs

South-East Asia
- 60 490 Confirmed
- 2256 Deaths

Globally
- 3 267 184 Confirmed
- 229 971 Deaths

WHO Classification
India - Clusters of cases
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO Information Network for Epidemics (EPI-WIN) has rapidly built an innovative analysis capability to identify misleading sources, posts and narratives, and predict rising areas of concern and information voids. For more on this, see the ‘Subject in Focus’ below, details here.
- Gearing up for the much needed COVID-19 vaccines, the World Health Organization today organized a meeting of vaccine manufacturers and national regulatory authorities from its South-East Asia Region, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures for COVID-19, including surveillance and contact tracing, laboratory diagnosis, risk communications and community engagement, hospital preparedness, infection prevention and control (IPC) and implementation of containment strategies.

- **Co-ordination and Partnership:** WHO facilitated the COVID-19 Information session for Ministers with participation of the Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare on 30 April 2020.
- **Laboratory testing:** WHO is providing kits and reagents to COVID-19 testing laboratories through ICMR to partly meet their huge testing requirement. So far, a total of 1,046,450 samples have been tested as on 03 May 2020, 9 AM IST, details here.
- **Surveillance:** WHO Field staff supporting strengthening of ILI and SARI surveillance in all the districts as per the government guidelines. Nodal Officers have been appointed to conduct active case search for SARI cases in hospital in-patient records, in select states, daily.
- **Research:** WHO supported ICMR in revising the study protocol for the national sero-prevalence survey for Covid-19. WHO Solidarity Trial for therapeutic treatment options for COVID-19 kicked off with a series of trainings organized for the study sites.
- **Risk Communication:** MoHFW released ‘Awareness Material for front line workers of COVID-19’ in multiple Indian languages, WHO and partners supported in the same. Video available here.
- **Training:** WHO field teams have trained nodal officers in States and Districts for filling CIF data in the Integrated Health Information Platform and are also supporting IDSP units in filling CIF data.

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

For all authentic & updated information on COVID-19 related technical issues, guidelines & advisories please regularly visit: [https://www.mohfw.gov.in/](https://www.mohfw.gov.in/).

In case of any queries on COVID-19, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare helpline no.: +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). Helpline numbers of States/UTs on COVID-19 available here.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Union Minister along with WHO representative participated in a virtual interactive session with Health Ministers of member states of WHO sharing measures being taken for containment of COVID-19 in India. He stressed “the crisis arising out of COVID-19 has been turned into an opportunity to strengthen the healthcare delivery system in the country”, details here.
- MoHFW launched the COVID India Seva an interactive platform and direct channel of communication aimed at enabling transparent e-governance delivery in real-time and answering citizen queries swiftly, at scale, especially in crisis situations like the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, details here.
- Group of Ministers (GoM) continue to undertake detailed deliberation on the measures taken by the Centre and various States/UTs for prevention, containment and management of COVID-19, details here.
- Ordinance was promulgated by the President of India to amend the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 to protect healthcare service personnel against violence during epidemics, ascertaining “zero tolerance to any form of violence against healthcare service and such acts of violence will now be cognizable and non-bailable offences”, details here.
- WHO together with MoHFW is supporting districts to follow and further strengthen their contingency plans to combat COVID-19; including assessment of dedicated COVID-19 hospitals along with the adequacy of isolation beds/wards and other supplies, details here.

INDIA SITUATION

- As of 26 April 2020 (5:00PM), a total of 26 917 COVID-19 cases (111 foreign nationals) in 32 states/union territories, including 5913 cured/discharged,1 migrated, 826 deaths. Active cases: 20 177, details here.

![COVID-19 confirmed cases](https://datahub.io/core/covid-19#resource-time-series-19-covid-combined)
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO, together with heads of state, global leaders, private sector partners and other stakeholders launched the Access To COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, a global collaboration to accelerate the development, production and equitable access to new COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines, details here.
- WHO has seen a dramatic increase in the number of cyber-attacks directed at its staff, and email scams targeting the public. WHO has urged the public to remain vigilant against fraudulent emails and recommends using reliable sources to obtain information about COVID-19 and other health issues. details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures for COVID-19, including surveillance and contact tracing, laboratory diagnosis, risk communications and community engagement, hospital preparedness, infection prevention and control (IPC) and implementation of containment strategies.

- Co-ordination and Partnership: WCO hosted the Health Partners virtual meeting to facilitate consensus and draft implementation strategy to support the MHFW as ‘One UN’ through the Joint Response Plan.
- Laboratory testing: WHO is providing kits and reagents to COVID-19 testing laboratories through ICMR to partly meet their huge testing requirement. A total of 625 309 samples have been tested so far, details here.
  - ICMR had clearly laid down the scope, purpose and usage of the rapid antibody tests. ICMR has always emphasized that the confirmatory test for diagnosis of COVID-19 infection is RT - PCR test of throat and/or nasal swab, which detects virus at early stage, details here.
  - ICMR expanded the testing strategy to pregnant women residing in clusters/containment area or in large migration gatherings evacuees centre from hotspot districts presenting in labour or likely to deliver in next 5 days should be tested even if asymptomatic, details here.
- Surveillance: SARI surveillance is being strengthened in states with support from WCO field staff. SMOs in the field are facilitating CIF filling and IHIP portal data entry along with following up on SARI/ILI surveillance.
- Research: ICMR had announced conducting a national sero-prevalence survey for Covid-19. WCO field teams are supporting states in the initial preparations for undertaking the proposed Survey.
  - India has joined the WHO Solidarity Trial for therapeutic treatment options for COVID 19. The trial has received clearance from the regulatory authority of India to move ahead with the trial.
- Risk Communication: WHO is supporting MoHFW on a Campaign to address the issue of stigma, in the society both against COVID positive cases and the medical community.
- State Support: WCO is supporting states through field teams and is now in the process of creating a pool for experts to be part of rapid response teams for special deployment.

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC


FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- In light of the COVID-19 situation on consultation with States PM announced the extension of the national lockdown in India till 3rd May, details here.
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare held a video conference with health functionaries and senior officials as well as field officers of WHO SEARO and Country Office on the containment measures for COVID-19 in India, details available here.
- WHO officers working at national, state and district level providing technical coordination for the development of Micro-Plans for clusters and outbreak containment with States/UT officials and also helping them in devising a strategy for continued surveillance of districts, details available here.
- WHO’s is also supporting Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) to further strengthen the ongoing surveillance and response based on transmission scenarios & testing of cases, details available here.
- A high-level Task Force has been formed to work on the frontiers of science related to drug testing and vaccines. Through the Task Force, the Government will further facilitate, keep track and monitor the progress of national and international efforts in vaccine development, details available here.

INDIA SITUATION

- As of 19 April 2020 (5:00 PM), according to the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), a total of 16 116 COVID-19 cases including (77 foreign nationals) in 32 states/union territories. These include 2301 who have been cured/discharged, 1 migrated and 519 deaths. Available here.

Number of tests, cumulative cases and deaths reported by date of reporting

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

India
16 116 Confirmed
519 Deaths
32 States/UTs

South-East Asia
27 319 Confirmed
1185 Deaths

Globally
2 241 359 Confirmed
152 551 Deaths

WHO Classification
India - Clusters of cases
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE
- WHO and Global Citizen featured inspiring and heartwarming stories from the frontlines of the COVID-19 response through livestreamed appearances curated in collaboration with Lady Gaga, Sir Elton John, Billie Eilish and others on major social media networks, streaming services, and major television networks worldwide, details available [here](#).
- WHO SEARO joined a meeting with WHO India and MoHFW under the leadership of the Union Minister with health functionaries and senior officials as well as field officers of the World Health Organization (WHO) on the containment measures for COVID-19 in India particularly institutionalizing field support, details available [here](#).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE
WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures for COVID-19, including surveillance and contact tracing, laboratory diagnosis, risk communications and community engagement, hospital preparedness, infection prevention and control (IPC) and implementation of containment strategies.
- **Co-ordination and Partnership**: WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through Joint Monitoring Group meetings and discussions of the Empowered Groups.
- **Hospital preparedness**: WHO field teams are supporting MoHFW state/district officials to review hospital preparedness by visiting dedicated COVID-19 hospitals as an emergency preparedness measure, details available [here](#).
- **Laboratory testing**: WHO is providing kits and reagents to COVID-19 testing laboratories through ICMR to partly meet their huge testing requirement.
- **Research**: ICMR is working on the “Phase II, Open Label, Randomized Controlled Study to Assess the Safety and Efficacy of Convalescent Plasma to Limit COVID19 Associated Complications”, details [here](#). DG ICMR / Secretary DHR are planning to conduct a “COVID-19 sero-prevalence survey in 82 districts in 25 states” with WHO assistance in conducting the survey.
- **Community engagement**: WHO is supporting MOHFW and partners to undertake a survey to assess the situation of COVID-19 awareness in urban slums through a participatory survey.
- **Essential Service Continuation**: MoHFW supported by WHO released the guidance note on Enabling Delivery of Essential Health Services during the COVID 19 Outbreak, details available [here](#).

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC
- For all authentic & updated information on COVID-19 related technical issues, guidelines & advisories please regularly visit: [https://www.mohfw.gov.in/](https://www.mohfw.gov.in/).
- Technical queries related to COVID-19 can be emailed at [technicalquery.covid19@gov.in](mailto:technicalquery.covid19@gov.in) and other queries on [ncov2019@gov.in](mailto:ncov2019@gov.in).
- In case of any queries on COVID-19, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare helpline no.: +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). List of helpline numbers of States/UTs on COVID-19 available [here](#).

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime Minister interacted with all Chief Ministers to strategize ahead considering extension of lockdown for tackling COVID-19, details here.
- PMO sanctioned INR 15,000 crores COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package; INR 7,774 crores for immediate response and rest medium term support (1-4 years), details available here.
- WHO is supporting Government in assessment of Dedicated COVID-19 hospitals. As of now, GoI has set up more than 550 dedicated facilities with >1 lakh isolation beds and >1,000 ICU beds have been set up, more here.
- For capacity building of the frontline health workers, AIIMS, New Delhi has been commissioned by MoHFW for Webinars on COVID-19 together with WHO and partners. Details available here.
- Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has directed all States/UTs to provide necessary Police Security to Doctors and Medical Staff undertaking surveillance, detection, quarantine and all activities against COVID-19.

INDIA SITUATION

- As of 12 April 2020 (17:00 PM), according to the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), a total of 8447 COVID-19 cases have been reported in 31 states/union territories. These include 765 who have been cured, discharged or migrated and 273 deaths. Available here.
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO has listed the first two diagnostic tests for emergency use during the COVID-19 pandemic to increase access to quality-assured, accurate tests for the disease supplied by the United Nations and other procurement agencies supporting the COVID-19 response. For more information, please see here.
- WHO and partners launched a new story book that aims to help children understand and come to terms with COVID-19 as a collaboration of more than 50 organizations. Download the book here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures for COVID-19, including surveillance and contact tracing, laboratory diagnosis, risk communications and community engagement, hospital preparedness, infection prevention and control (IPC) and implementation of containment strategies.

- **Co-ordination and Partnership**: WHO is leading the Joint Response Plan (JRP) as well as participating in National Joint Monitoring Group (JMG) meeting with MoHFW.
- **Hospital preparedness**: WHO field teams are supporting MoHFW state/district officials to review hospital preparedness by conducting a survey of over 160 district hospitals and to set up dedicated COVID-19 hospitals as an emergency preparedness measure.
- **Laboratory testing**: A total of 1,79,374 samples from 1,64,773 individuals have been tested as on 11 April 2020. Details available here. WHO is supplying kits and reagents to COVID-19 testing laboratories to partly meet their huge testing requirement.
- **Research**: WHO is working with the National AIDS Research Institute (NARI-ICMR) for India to join WHO SOLIDARITY trial
- **Community engagement**: WHO is supporting MOHFW, UNICEF and partners to establish an Interfaith Corona Coalition to engage religious community in action against COVID-19
- **Capacity Building**: MoHFW, WHO and partner supported capacity building is being prioritized.
  - **Training Resources**: GoI launched 'Integrated Govt. Online training' (iGOT) portal for frontline health workers for conducting training and awareness materials for the same.
  - **COVID Academy**: This online training and resource platform was launched to keep the civil society, NGOs and private sector informed about the most updated information on COVID-19.

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

- For all authentic & updated information on COVID-19 related technical issues, guidelines & advisories please regularly visit: https://www.mohfw.gov.in/.
- Technical queries related to COVID-19 can be emailed at technicalquery.covid19@gov.in and other queries on ncov2019@gov.in.
- In case of any queries on COVID-19, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare helpline no.: +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). List of helpline numbers of States/UTs on COVID-19 available here.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

WHO Country Office for India I Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800 I Email: wrindia@who.int
Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a joint meeting of the Empowered Groups (04 April) constituted for planning and ensuring implementation of COVID-19 response activities in the country.

ICMR to collaborate in the global WHO Solidarity Trial – an international randomized trial of treatment of COVID-19 in hospitalized patients.

MoHFW issued an order for insurance cover for all health workers for a period of 90 days through 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package: Insurance Scheme for Health Workers Fighting COVID-19'.

Government of India launched a mobile app ArogyaSetu (02 April) through a public-private partnership to enable people to assess their risk of COVID infection (in line with privacy and data security parameters).

WHO Country office for India is working closely with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) to strengthen COVID-19 Special Surveillance System (S3) through the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP).

As of 5 April 2020 (18:00 PM), according to MoHFW, a total of 3577 COVID-19 cases, (including 65 foreign nationals) have been reported in 29 states/union territories. These include 274 who have been cured/discharged, 1 who has migrated and 83 deaths. Available here.

**INDIA SITUATION**

**WHO RISK ASSESSMENT**

Globally - Very High

### SITUATION IN NUMBERS

**India (5.4.2020)**
3 577 Confirmed
83 Deaths
29 States/UTs

**South-East Asia (4.4.2020)**
6 528 Confirmed
267 Deaths

**Globally (4.4.2020)**
1 051 635 Confirmed
56 985 Deaths
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- World Bank’s Global Board of Executive Directors approved a fast-track $1 billion India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project to help India prevent, detect, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and strengthen its public health preparedness.
- WHO EURO has given a fast track approval for the use of the Xpert® Xpress SARS-CoV-2 cartridge (Cepheid, Sunnyvale, United States of America) to be included for COVID testing. More information here.
- WHO South-East Asia Regional Director Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh held a virtual meeting with Health Ministers of the Region calling for a stronger whole-of-society approach. More information here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures for COVID-19, including surveillance and contact tracing, laboratory diagnosis, risk communications and community engagement, hospital preparedness, infection prevention and control (IPC) and implementation of containment strategies.

- **Co-ordination and Partnership:** WHO is leading the Joint Response Plan (JRP) of UN agencies and partners in line with GoI Preliminary Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). The joint plan will be expanded to include two broad sections – Union and State level activities to support COVID-19 response.
- **Surveillance:** MoHFW issued a circular to all states/UTs to seek support of WHO NPSP team in rapid scale-up of implementation of IHIP/IDSP. NCDC requested WHO team to support states/UTs in enhancing data collection by applying revised case investigation form.
- **Testing:** In addition to previous targeted testing strategy, ICMR has issued advisory to start rapid antibody based blood test for COVID-19 (4 April 2020) as a strategy for containment zone and large migration gatherings/evacuees centres for cases of Influenza Like Illness (ILI). Locating of testing sites here.
- **COVID Hospital Preparedness:** WHO NPSP, TB, NTD and CVHO field teams are supporting MoHFW state/district officials to assess functionality of more than 150 district hospitals dedicated for COVID-19.
- **Capacity Building in states/UTs and districts:** MoHFW with support of WHO conducted orientation on COVID-19 preparedness, response and containment for officials in all states and UTs. The same has been conducted in 723 out of 755 (96%) districts across India.
- **Training Resources:** MoHFW released guidance to states on all aspects of COVID-19 management including WHO supported training materials, available here. MoHFW has designated NHSRC to facilitate cascading of training for frontline health workers on their role in COVID-19. MoHFW has requested WHO India to assist with adaptation of the content prepared for FLWs for other HR that may be mobilized for COVID-19 management.

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

- Technical queries related to COVID-19 may be emailed at technicalquery.covid19@gov.in and other queries on ncov2019@gov.in.
- In case of any queries on COVID-19, please call at Ministry of Health & Family Welfare helpline no: +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). List of helpline numbers of States/UTs on COVID-19 is also available here.
- **Note:** PM Modi called for public participation and light candles or diyas, torches or mobile flashlights, for 9 minutes at 9:00pm on the 5th April to show solidarity and collective resolve.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

WHO Country Office for India | Telephone number: +91-11-66564800 | Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- India’s response to COVID-19 has been pre-emptive, pro-active and graded with high-level political commitment and a ‘whole government’ approach to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- WHO Country office for India is working closely with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) to strengthen surveillance, build capacity of health system and optimize ‘window of opportunity’ created by mandatory physical distancing in India.
- All incoming international flights have been suspended and as of 25 March (through an order) extension of suspension has been made till 14 April 2020.
- Indian Railways issued an order that the period from 22 March to 14 April will be treated under “Force Majeure”. Passenger movement has been restricted including inter-state travel, all efforts to ensure availability of essential commodities through its uninterrupted freight services in place.

INDIA SITUATION

- As of 28 March, 05:45 PM according to the MoHFW, a total of 909 COVID-19 cases (862 Indians and 47 foreign nationals) have been reported in 27 states/union territories (80 who have been cured/discharged/migrated and 19 reported deaths). Available at https://www.mohfw.gov.in/
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- United Nations launched a US$2 billion COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan to support the world’s most vulnerable countries. More information can be found here.
- WHO Director-General mentioned many key issues and action steps to effectively combat COVID-19, as well as maintaining physical distance. More information can be found here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) has been working closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures for COVID-19, including surveillance and contact tracing, laboratory diagnosis, risk communications and community engagement, hospital preparedness, infection prevention and control (IPC) and implementation of containment strategies.

Co-ordination and Partnership

- WHO has brought key international partners together under a COVID-19 Joint Response Plan (JRP) of UN agencies and partners. The draft JRP was reviewed during the health partners meeting on 27 March.

Testing

- ICMR has issued guidelines for use of commercial kits for nasal/throat swab based diagnosis of COVID-19
- 104 out of 119 proposed labs in public sector are functional for SARS-CoV2 test. Additionally, a total of 15 private labs in 7 states are functional. Geolocation of labs available here.

Capacity Building in states/UTs and districts

- MoHFW with support of WHO conducted orientation on COVID-19 preparedness, response and containment for officials in all states and UTs. The same has been conducted in 723 out of 755 (96%) districts across India.
- A nationwide training of frontline health workers on COVID-19 was launched by MoHFW and partners through a virtually conducted training of trainers for 546 participants of 37 states and union territories on 27 March.

New guidelines Issued

- MoHFW: Role of Frontline Workers in Prevention and Management of COVID-19 in English and Hindi
- WHO: COVID-19: Operational guidance for maintaining essential health services during an outbreak and the Handbook for public health capacity-building at ground crossings and cross-border collaboration

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

For any queries related to health, people may contact Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) 24*7 helpline number (+91-11-23978046) or email at (ncov2019@gmail.com).

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

WHO Country Office for India
Telephone number: +91-11- 66564800
Email: wrindia@who.int
HIGHLIGHTS

- 23 states/UTs including New Delhi have issued orders allowing only essential services to operate in 75 districts with confirmed COVID-19 cases until 31 March 2020. The focus is on closure of all activities except essential services such as hospitals, telecom, pharmacy, provision stores.

- PM Modi called for ‘Janata curfew’ on 22 March from 7 AM-9 PM, urging people to stay home except those in essential services, enforcing public-led social distancing interventions.

- In consultation with medical professionals, detailed advisory has been issued for all health establishments to avoid non-urgent hospitalization and minimize elective surgeries.

- Allaying concern of the logistics for COVID-19 management particularly masks and hand sanitizers, Government has notified an Order under the Essential Commodities (ECs) Act, 1955 to declare these items as Essential Commodities up to 30 June.

- No scheduled international commercial passenger aircraft shall take off from any foreign airport for any airport in India, after 0001 hrs GMT of 22 March 2020 till 0001 hrs GMT of 29 March 2020.

- All train services suspended till 31st March 2020 including sub urban rail services, metro rail services and interstate passenger transport. Good trains may continue to operate for facilitating availability of essential commodities.

- These restrictions are temporary but considered critical to break the chain of transmission. States have been requested to ensure that while such measures are being taken, necessary steps must be ensured to minimize discomfort to the poor and vulnerable sections of the society.

INDIA SITUATION

As on 22 March 2020 06.30 PM, a total of 360 COVID-19 cases (319 Indian Nationals and 41 Foreign Nationals) have been reported from 23 States/UTs across India.

Cases:

Deaths:
Maharashtra (2) Delhi (1) Bihar (1), Gujarat (1), Karnataka (1) Punjab (1)
GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Hon’ble PM Narendra Modi made a public appeal to encourage public participation in the response towards COVID-19 by observing a ‘Janata curfew’ on 22 March from 7 AM-9 PM. At 5 PM, all citizens have been asked to participate in showing solidarity and appreciation for health workers by clapping. All states have issued appropriate instructions for all children below 10 years of age and all citizens above 65 years (except for public representatives/government servants/medical professionals) to remain at home and avoid mass gatherings, unless there is a medical reason and essential services requirement.

States have activated necessary provision for infectious disease management as provided under Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897. Furthermore, under the Disaster Management Act, the States/UTs can now draw funds from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), in addition to the funds from the state government and the NHM. Ministry of Home Affairs has issued detailed guidelines to States/UTs in this regard. To ensure effective and seamless coordination between the Centre and the States, 30 nodal officers of the level of Joint Secretary and above have been drawn from various Ministries to liaison, coordinate and help the States with respect to anything that is required from the Government of India.

High level Group of Ministers (GoM) is constantly reviewing the status of cases in India and implementing steps taken by the Government of India across states. A detailed advisory on social distancing measures has been issued to stop or slow down the rate and extent of disease transmission. In consultation with professional associations, detailed advisory has been issued for all health
institutions to avoid non-urgent hospitalization and minimalize elective surgeries. This is to avoid hospital related infections to the vulnerable and prepare hospitals effectively for meeting current and future challenges posed by COVID-19.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) is regularly evaluating quarantine facilities and preparedness regarding hospital management such as OPD blocks, availability of testing kits, personal protective equipment (PPEs), medicines, and adequate isolation wards. All public hospitals have been directed to ensure adequate availability of protective gear for all healthcare workers.

Ministry of Pharma and Consumer Affairs has issued advisory to take necessary action to regulate price for masks, sanitizers, and other health related logistic material and to facilitate their availability in all hospitals and to people at large. Youth and citizens are urged to become volunteers to support the government’s ongoing efforts in management of COVID-19. Advisory has also been issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) citing preventive measures to be taken by all employees of Ministries/ Departments to control the spread of COVID-19.

It is obligatory for all hospitals (Government and Private), Medical officers in Government health institutions and registered Private Medical Practitioners including AYUSH Practitioners, to now notify COVID-19 affected person (as defined by MoHFW) to concerned district surveillance unit. All practitioners have been advised get the self-declaration forms (from MoHFW) who, within their knowledge, have patients with travel history of COVID-19 affected countries as per the guidelines and/or fall under the case definition of COVID-19 (suspect/case).

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- The United Nations Foundation and the Swiss Philanthropy Foundation have created the solidarity fund to support WHO and partners in a massive effort to help countries prevent, detect, and manage the novel coronavirus – particularly those where the needs are the greatest.
- The first vaccine trial has begun just 60 days after the genetic sequence of the virus was shared by China. WHO and its partners are organizing a large international study, called the Solidarity Trial, in many countries to compare different treatments.
- WHO and Global Citizen launched #TogetherAtHome, a virtual, no-contact concert series to promote physical distancing and action for global health.

WHO COUNTRY SUPPORT

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) has been working closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures for COVID-19, including disease surveillance, laboratory and research protocols, risk communications, training on infection prevention and control (IPC) and cluster containment plan, surveillance and tracking of travelers.
Co-ordination and Partnership
WHO has initiated dialogue with FICCI regarding aspects for engagement of the private sector for COVID-19 response as representatives of India’s business and industry. WHO together with UNICEF is supporting MoHFW in crafting evidence-based multi-media communication campaigns that would focus on different aspects such as preventive measures, busting myths, equipping the masses with information on guidelines, advisories, testing labs, etc.

State Level Response
- Trainings on COVID-19 conducted in more than 564 districts and ongoing in remaining districts.
- State Rapid Response team activated in 33 states and Epidemic act enforced in 31 states.
- Closure of educational institutes/ cinema halls initiated in 35 states.
- Designated hospitals identified in 35 states.
- Restrictions for mass gatherings enforced in 33 states.
- Mock drill conducted in 10 states (Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Odisha, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand)
- Mass quarantine facilities identified in 25 states.
- In Uttar Pradesh, 2463 suspects are under surveillance— 2410 at home quarantine and 53 in institutional isolation
- No cases have been reported from any of the 7 North Easter states. In Assam Health Minister reviewed the preparedness at Guwahati Airport. Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland have enforced the Epidemic Act in their states.
- Odisha Government is ready with 540 bed isolation bed across the state. The state has released an advisory to all religious institutions to manage religious congregations
- In response to the first case, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister reviewed the district preparedness with all District collectors and Superintendent of Police and Health minister chaired the core group meeting with concerned departments.
- Helpline number for COVID-19 activated in all states

Risk Communication
To increase access to reliable information, WHO has partnered with WhatsApp and Facebook to launch a WHO Health Alert messaging service. This service will provide the latest news and information on COVID-19, including details on symptoms and how people can protect themselves.

ICMR COVID-19 testing strategy
WHO is working with ICMR to ensure country-appropriate testing strategy is in place without burdening the health system. As per the latest ICMR guidance laboratory testing will be offered when prescribed by a qualified physician (when advised as per the guidance issued). The strategy is reviewed by a National Task Force and updated periodically. The latest revised strategy was issued on 20 March 2020. In addition, the network of labs equipped to test COVID-19 have been expanded to over 100, in total.
States are assessing the availability of medical services including testing, quarantine and measures needed scale them up to meet all possible contingencies. States have been advised to earmark facilities fully dedicated to managing the COVID-19 cases only. Currently, there is no evidence of community transmission of COVID-19 and the disease is primarily reported in individuals with travel history to the affected countries or close contacts of positive cases. Hence the ICMR strategy recommends the following testing protocols:

1. **Caution:**
   - All asymptomatic individuals who have undertaken international travel in the last 14 days: They should stay in home quarantine for 14 days and tested only if they become symptomatic (fever, cough, difficulty in breathing).
   - All family members living with a confirmed case should be home quarantined

2. **Whom to test:**
   - All symptomatic contacts of laboratory confirmed cases
   - All symptomatic health care workers.
   - All hospitalized patients with Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (fever AND cough and/or shortness of breath).
   - Asymptomatic direct and high-risk contacts of a confirmed case should be tested once between day 5 and day 14 of coming in his/her contact.
   - Direct and high-risk contact include those who live in the same household with a confirmed case and healthcare workers who examined a confirmed case without adequate protection as per WHO recommendations.

3. **What samples to collect:** oropharyngeal and/or nasopharyngeal swabs

**Guidelines Issued**

1. Guidelines on Clinical Management of COVID-19 triage (early recognition of patients), implementation of IPC measures has been revised and updated.
2. Guidelines for Dead Body Management towards standard precautions, infection prevention and control measures, handling of the body and environmental disinfection.
4. Guidelines have also been issued for Private Sector Laboratories Intending to Initiate COVID-19 Testing including Sample Collection, Packaging and Transportation for Novel Coronavirus
5. COVID-19 resources online training course are now available in the official WHO languages on OpenWHO - an interactive, web-based, knowledge-transfer platform offering free online courses to improve the response to health emergencies. Resources under development include courses in Hindi as well.
TRAVEL ADVISORY
As per GoM aligned with steps taken by the Government of India, so far including travel restrictions and advisories already in place, new restrictions in place include:

- No scheduled international commercial passenger aircraft shall take off from any foreign airport for any airport in India, after 0001 hrs GMT of March 22, 2020 till 0001 hrs GMT of March 29, 2020. Only maximum travel time of 20 hours is permissible for commercial passenger aircraft to land in India.
- As such, no incoming scheduled international commercial passenger aircraft shall be allowed to disembark its passengers *on Indian soil* (Foreigner or Indian) after 2001 hrs GMT of March 22, 2020 (*i.e. 0131 hrs IST of March 23, 2020*).
- It is to be highlighted that these are temporary measures to restrict the spread of COVID-19 and will be reviewed by the Government.

All international passengers entering India are required to furnish duly filled self-declaration form to Health Officials and Immigration officials and undergo Universal Health Screening at the designated health counters at all Points of Entry.

Instructions have been issued to all major and minor shipping ports for dealing with novel coronavirus. The format of the Maritime Declaration of Health is as per the International Health Regulations 2005, issued by World Health Organization which has also been adopted by International Maritime Organization.

All train services suspended till 31st March 2020 including sub urban rail services and metro rail services. Good trains may continue to operate for facilitating availability of essential commodities. Interstate passenger transport also to be suspended till 31st Mar 2020. All travel restrictions are temporary but considered critical to break the chain of transmission.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC
For any queries related to health, people may contact Ministry of Health & Family Welfare 24*7 helpline number (+91-11-23978046) or email at (ncov2019@gmail.com).

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HIGHLIGHTS

- On 11 March, WHO declared the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) outbreak as a pandemic *(an epidemic that has spread worldwide affecting a large number of people)*.
- On the same day, per the direction of the Prime Minister of India, a high-level Group of Ministers (GOM) was constituted to review, monitor and evaluate the preparedness and measures taken regarding management of COVID-19 in the country.
- Government of India has invoked powers under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 to enhance preparedness and containment of the virus and declared COVID-19 a 'notified disaster' under the Disaster Management Act 2005.
- Community surveillance, quarantine, isolation wards, adequate PPEs, trained manpower, rapid response teams for COVID-19 are being strengthened further in all States and UTs.
- All incoming travelers, including Indian nationals, arriving from or having visited China, Italy, Iran, Republic of Korea, France, Spain and Germany after 15 February 2020 will be quarantined for a minimum period of 14 days, in effect from 13 March 2020 at the port of departure.

INDIA SITUATION

As on 14 March (05:00 PM), a total of 84 cases of COVID-19 have been reported in India (67 Indian nationals and 17 foreign nationals*; and of the total 10 were cured and 2 deaths reported).

So far, cases of COVID-19 have been reported from 13 States/UTs - Andhra Pradesh (1 case), Delhi (7 cases), Haryana (14 cases), Jammu & Kashmir (2 cases), Karnataka (6 cases), Kerala (19 cases), Ladakh (3 cases), Maharashtra (14 cases), Punjab (1 case), Rajasthan (3 cases), Telangana (1 case), Tamil Nadu (1 case) and Uttar Pradesh (12 cases)

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

India
84 Confirmed
2 Deaths
13 States/UTs

Globally
132 758 confirmed
4955 deaths
122 countries/territories

China
80 991 confirmed
3180 deaths

Outside of China
51 767 confirmed
1775 deaths
Death was reported in a 76-year-old male from Karnataka and 68-year-old female from Delhi, both with co-morbidities. Hospital isolation of all confirmed cases, tracing and home quarantine of the contacts are ongoing.

The Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) and Cabinet Secretary are closely monitoring the situation. All the states and UTs of India have been advised to invoke the provisions under Section 2 of the Epidemic Disease Act 1897, which includes special measures to be taken by the Centre to “prescribe regulations as to dangerous epidemic disease.”

The government has declared the COVID-19 outbreak in the country a "notified disaster", in a move called "a special one-time dispensation", to provide compensation and aid to infected people and the families of those who died due to the virus. Funds for this and other measures will be drawn from the Disaster Response Funds of each state (SDRF).

Travel Advisories had been issued by MoHFW from time to time. The following consolidated advisory is presently issued.

- Starting from 13 March 2020, all existing visas, except diplomatic, official, UN/International Organizations, employment, project visas, stand suspended until 15 April 2020.
- All incoming travelers, including Indian nationals, arriving from or having visited China, Italy, Iran, Republic of Korea, France, Spain and Germany after 15 February 2020 will be quarantined for a minimum period of 14 days, with effect from 1200 GMT on 13 March 2020 at the port of departure.
- All passenger movement for foreigners through all Immigration Land Check Posts at Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Myanmar border will be suspended from March 15, 2020 with few exceptions (Nepalese and Bhutanese nationals)
- All international passengers entering India are now required to furnish duly filled self-declaration form and undergo universal health screening at the designated counters at all points of entry.
- To date, total 11,71,061 passengers have been screened from 10,876 flights at 30 designated airports. 3,062 passengers and 583 contacts were identified and referred to IDSP/ designated hospitals. 42,296 passengers have been brought under community surveillance, out of which 2,559 were symptomatic and 522 hospitalized.
Through integrated disease surveillance system, a total of 28,529 persons are being monitored under community surveillance. Laboratory capacities are being strengthened for timely detection and potential isolation of cases. All states are on high alert, for early detection and management of any further cases. As of 14 March, there are 52 laboratories identified by the Indian Council of Medical Research, for testing of COVID-19. A total of 57 laboratories have been identified to support sample collection and referral.

**STATE UPDATES**

As per a letter from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Rs 4 lakh will be given to the families of those whose deaths have been linked to the COVID-19. In addition, the cost of hospitalization for those being treated for the virus has been fixed by state governments, from the Disaster Response Funds (SDRF) of each state.

- Local transmission of COVID-19 (infection among those with no travel history to affected countries) have been reported in five states: Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh
- Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have only imported cases
- Kerala released the Time-Location chart of the positive cases so that contacts can reach out to the health service. While, in other states, tracking of contacts, home quarantine and isolation of cases is ongoing along with other containment measures
- Places of mass gatherings like cinema theatres, malls, marriage halls, pubs, music fests, marathons, night-clubs have been closed
WHO RESPONSE

Globally WHO, UN Foundation and partners launched a first-of-its-kind COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund on 14 March. The fund will raise money from a wide range of donors to support the work of WHO and partners to help countries respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 12 March, a high-level meeting on COVID-19 was convened by WHO South-East Asia Regional Office with participation of over 80 representatives of UN agencies and diplomatic missions in New Delhi.

WHO Country Office for India support at national level

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) has been working closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures for COVID-19. WCO is closely working with National Centre for Diseases Control (NCDC) on disease surveillance and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on risk communications. As member of the Joint Monitoring Group (JMG) on emerging diseases, WCO has been regularly attending these meetings. JMG brings together line ministries and agencies to provide updates as well technical guidance on preparedness and response activities including planning for the next phase. WCO continues to provide support to ICMR on laboratory and research protocols.

WHO Country Office for India support at state/district level

- WCO is supporting training on IPC & Cluster containment plan, surveillance and tracking of travelers along with IDSP teams.
- Feedback and update on COVID-19 is being shared regularly by SRTLs with divisional officers, AD health and Commissioners across affected and non-affected states. SMOs are updating DMs & district health officials in DTFs and DWRs on a regular basis.
- State Training of Trainers (ToTs) are being held in consultation with State Ministries, Senior leadership from National Health Missions.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

For any queries related to health, people may contact Ministry of Health & Family Welfare 24*7 helpline number (+91-11-23978046) or email at (ncov2019@gmail.com).

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Global updates

As of 09 March 2020 (new cases in last 24 hours):

- **Global**: 109,577 confirmed cases (3,993 new)
- **China**: 80,904 (45 new), 3,123 deaths (23 new)
- **Outside China**: 28,673 confirmed (3,948 new), 686 deaths (202 new); 104 Countries/territories/areas (3 new)
- **WHO Risk assessment**: China – Very High, Regional Level – Very high, Global Level- Very High

India Situation

As of 09 March, a total of 44 confirmed cases have been reported from India. This includes: Delhi (4), Haryana (14), Jammu (1), Kerala (9), Ladakh (2), Punjab (1), Rajasthan (2), Tamil Nadu (1), Telangana (1), Uttar Pradesh (9). Of these, 16 are foreign nationals. The 6 new cases from Kerala, are in addition to the 3 cases, that have already recovered. Hospital isolation of the cases, tracing and home quarantine of their contacts is ongoing, in the states from where cases have been reported.

All states are on high alert, for early detection and management of any further cases. As of 08 March, there are 52 laboratories identified by the Indian Council of Medical Research, for testing of COVID-19. A total of 57 laboratories have been identified to support sample collection and referral.

The Prime Minister is personally monitoring the preparedness and response. The Union Health and Family Welfare Minister (HFM) is reviewing the situation daily. A Group of Ministers chaired by HFM has been constituted to review the progress and measures taken for containment. In a suo-moto speech on 05 March, HFM provided an update on the global situation of COVID-19, number of cases in India and the actions taken by the Government to contain further spread. He updated the house regarding screening of passengers in airport, seaports and minor ports. Through integrated disease surveillance system, a total of 28,529 persons were monitored under community surveillance. He updated on another successful evacuation in bringing back 124 people including 5 foreign nationals from the COVID-19 infected cruise ship. He informed of the strengthened laboratory capacity in the country.

As per the latest India travel advisory, all international passengers irrespective of nationality are mandated to undergo universal medical screening. Adequate screening measures have been setup and nine more airports have been added to the existing 21, bringing the total to 30 airports. As on 9 March, a total of 9,41,717 international passengers from 8,827 flights have been screened at airports. 1,921 passengers were identified as symptomatic and 177 of them have been hospitalized. 33,599 are under observation while 21,867 have completed observation period (press release 9 March). Screening of passengers is also being done in 12 major seaports and 65 minor ports in the country.
In addition to Visa restrictions already in place, passengers traveling from /having visited Italy or Republic of Korea and desirous of entering India will need certificate of having tested negative for COVID-19 from the designated laboratories authorized by the health authorities of these countries. This will be enforced from 0000 Hrs of 10th March 2020.

A buffer stock of personal protective equipment (PPE) and N95 masks is maintained by the states as well as Union Government. On 06 March, HFM chaired a high-level meeting with private hospitals in Delhi-NCR for engaging them for COVID-19 management. Discussions focused on preparing for surge in terms of bed capacity of hospitals for infected cases, isolation wards, etc. through private sector alliance. Protocols for sample collection and testing were shared with the private sector.

Risk communication has been intensified. General public is reached through diverse social media and community platforms; and material is being widely disseminated including in regional languages through states. In order to spread awareness, special COVID-19 mobile phone caller tune was launched by all telecom operators with basic infection prevention messages played when a caller dials-out.

WHO Response

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) support at national level

WCO has been working closely with the Ministry of Health, on preparedness and response measures for COVID-19.

On 06 March, a National Training of Trainers (ToT) was organized by MoHFW with WHO to support on COVID-19 with a focus on strengthening Infection Prevention Control, Surveillance and Risk Communication and Community Engagement. The support included development of the training materials and facilitation for the training. This was attended by 280 officials from states/UT. The training was also virtually attended by 1000 officials across the country.

On 07 March, WCO organized the same training for partners including UNICEF, CDC, USAID, NDMA, AIIMS, IDEA. The training was attended by 80 participants, facilitated by 20 resource persons from MoHFW, WHO, UNICEF, and, close to 300 field staff joined by video link.

WCO is closely working with National Centre for Diseases Control (NCDC) on disease surveillance, with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on laboratory testing capacity, and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on risk communications. As member of the Joint Monitoring Group (JMG) on emerging diseases, WCO has been regularly attending these meetings. JMG brings together line ministries and agencies to provide updates as well technical guidance on preparedness and response activities including planning for the next phase. WCO continues to provide support to ICMR on laboratory and research protocols. WCO has also initiated exchange of information with ICMR on areas of research and development related to COVID-19.
WHO coordination with UN partners

WCO India and UNICEF are supporting MoHFW for preparedness, response planning including interventions for risk communication and community engagement, development of IEC materials and their dissemination among public through various communication channels. The field offices of UNICEF have been coordinating with State governments to plan their support in case COVID-19 situation escalates. Toolkits for Health Service Providers for Designated and General Health facilities have been prepared and will be rolled out.

WCO India has been updating the UN country team and health partners on COVID-19 situation with daily information package and frequent meetings.

WCO support at state level

WHO medical officers in the field are supporting states and UTs in capacity building of rapid response teams and medical officers, knowledge sharing, contact tracing and containment. On the request of MoHFW, WCO has deployed four teams to support response in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana and Rajasthan. Nine teams will be deployed to other states shortly.

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Global updates

As of 27 February 2020 (new cases in last 24 hours):

- **Global**: 82,294 confirmed cases (1,185 new)
- **China**: 78,630 confirmed (439 new), 2,747 deaths (29 new)
- **Outside China**: 3,664 confirmed (746 new), 46 countries (9 new), 57 deaths (13 new)
- **Nine new countries** are Brazil, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Norway, Pakistan, Romania, and North Macedonia

**WHO Risk Assessment**: China – Very High, Regional Level – High, Global level – High

India Situation

The three cases of COVID-19 reported from Kerala have fully recovered and been discharged from the hospital on 20 February 2020. Since then, no new cases have been reported.

The Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and Cabinet Secretary are closely monitoring the situation of COVID-19 in India. Government of India (GoI) previously issued travel advisories requesting the public to refrain from travelling to China, and from 26 February this advisory applies also to Iran, Italy and Republic of Korea. People coming from these countries or having travel history, since 10th February 2020, may be quarantined for 14 days on their arrival to India.

On 22 February, GoI informed that universal screening at airports will also apply for flights arriving from Indonesia, Kathmandu, Malaysia and Vietnam (in addition to China, Hongkong, Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore and Thailand as being done previously). As on date, a total of 4,829,277 passengers have been screened from 4,787 flights. Screening is ongoing at 21 airports, 12 major seaports, and 65 minor seaports and land crossings particularly bordering Nepal. A total of 23,531 passengers are being monitored under community surveillance through Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) network on a daily basis.

Between 26-27 February, GoI evacuated 124 people from Japan including 119 Indian citizens and five nationals from Sri Lanka, Nepal, South Africa and Peru. They were quarantined on the Diamond
Princess Cruise ship at Yokohama due to COVID-19. In addition, 112 persons had been evacuated from Wuhan, China. These included 76 Indian citizens and 36 nationals from countries such as Bangladesh, Myanmar, Maldives, China, South Africa, USA and Madagascar. These evacuees have been quarantined for 14 days at camps managed by the Army and ITBP.

The National Institute of Virology, Pune under the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has informed that a total of 2,880 samples have been tested as on 27 February 2020. 1,572 samples were referred from suspected cases throughout the country except those from the quarantine centres. Till date, three out of the 1,572 have been tested positive for COVID-19.

**Situation in Kerala**

In Kerala, the situation has stabilized with no new case being detected. Contact tracing, isolation and response activities have been scaled down. State has closed control room activities and handed over surveillance and response to IDSP as a mark of normalcy.

Extensive awareness and communication activities continue as before to build awareness and sensitize the public. In last two days, Kerala has released more people from isolation reducing the total people in isolation to just 127 out of which 5 are in hospital. Of the total 444 samples sent for testing 3 were positive, 436 were negative and results for 5 are pending.

**WHO Response**

**WHO Country Office for India (WCO) support at national level**

WCO is closely working with National Centre for Diseases Control (NCDC) on disease surveillance, with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on laboratory testing capacity, and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on risk communications.

As member of the Joint Monitoring Group (JMG) on emerging diseases, WCO has been regularly attending these meetings (25 and 27 February). JMG brings together line ministries and agencies to provide updates as well technical guidance on preparedness and response activities including planning for the next phase and securing essential supplies (PPE).
WCO continues to provide support to ICMR on laboratory and research protocols and National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) for repurposing of Antiviral drugs for COVID-19. WCO has also initiated exchange of information with ICMR on areas of research and development related to COVID-19.

**WHO coordination with UN partners**

WCO India and UNICEF are supporting MoHFW for preparedness, response planning including interventions for risk communication and community engagement, development of IEC materials and their dissemination among public through various communication channels. The field offices of UNICEF have been coordinating with State governments to plan their support in case COVID-19 situation escalates.

WCO India has been updating the UN country team and health partners on COVID-19 situation with daily information package and frequent meetings.

**WCO support at state level**

WCO field teams continue to support the states across India in various preparedness and response activities. These include screening of travelers at points of entry, supporting contact tracing and follow up of travelers, developing and adapting technical guidance and IEC materials, facilitating mock drills, orienting and advocating to state officials, training rapid response teams and medical officers, sharing technical materials and daily situation update.

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Global updates

As of 20 February 2020:

- **Global** --75,748 confirmed cases (548 new) of Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) reported
- **China** --74,675 confirmed (399 new), 2121 deaths (115 new)
- **Outside China** --1073 confirmed (149 new), 26 countries (1 new), 8 deaths (5 new)
- **One new country** (Islamic Republic of Iran) reported two cases of COVID-19 in the past 24 hours

**WHO Risk Assessment:** China – Very High, Regional Level – High, Global level – High

**India Situation**

Between 30 January and 03 February 2020, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) reported three cases of COVID-19 in Kerala. All three cases have fully recovered and discharged from the hospital. No further cases have been reported.

The Prime Minister’s Office, MoHFW and Cabinet Secretary are closely monitoring the emerging situation on COVID-19 in India daily. Government of India (GoI) has issued travel advisories requesting the public to refrain from travel to China and that anyone with a travel history since 15 January 2020 from China will be quarantined on return. Further, e-Visa facility for Chinese passport holders has been suspended and existing visas (already issued) are no longer valid for any foreign national travelling from China to India. Screening of passengers is ongoing across all 21 airports, 12 major and 65 non-major seaports and border crossings. As on 21 February, 2020 close to 397,148 passengers from 3,835 flights have been screened.

States have made available additional manpower to undertake screening and provided other logistic support to airport public health officers. States that do not have airports or seaports, such as Haryana and Chhattisgarh, have reported that special awareness drives have been initiated at toll plaza, bus stations and railway stations.

Ministry of Tourism is coordinating with the Hotels Association in India to encourage wider self-reporting by travelers visiting religious and other tourist places in identified states. All 645 Indian evacuees from Wuhan have tested negative for COVID-19 and have gone back to their homes from the quarantine facilities.

National Institute of Virology, Pune of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is the apex laboratory for reconfirmation of any positive samples as well as the quality assurance for the testing of samples for COVID-19. In addition, 13 Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs) and National Centre for Disease Control, New Delhi are performing testing for the COVID-19. Till today, a total of 2,722 samples have been tested of which only 3 samples had earlier tested positive (Kerala).

A 24x7 Control Room has been made operational (011-23978046) and IEC materials are being widely disseminated through various communications channels such as print, electronic and social media.
Situation in Kerala

In Kerala, the situation has stabilized with all the three patients have recovered and discharged from the hospital and are now under home isolation. However, the state remains on guard and the surveillance strengthening, contact tracing, isolation and response activities are ongoing.

As of 20 February, a total of 914 people are placed under surveillance, 907 are under home isolation and 7 are admitted in isolation facilities. Till date, 433 samples of suspected cases have been tested, of which 423 were negative, 3 positive and results of 7 pending.

The state and district control rooms in Kerala have been activated and daily meetings are being held. Additionally, the medical officers and junior nursing staff have been trained in surveillance and contact tracing. For all 14 districts a Medical Board has been constituted with specialty experts to provide effective care for the patients. There is ongoing work to strengthen professional bodies such as Indian Medical Association (IMA), Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP) and Private Hospitals Association on surveillance, infection prevention and control, and case management.

Ambulances have been identified in each district and are prepared to be available on call. Risk Communications has been strengthened to address rumor, fake news and miscommunications. Psychosocial support is being provided to families of suspected persons.

WHO Response

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) support at national level

WCO is closely working with key technical institutions of MoHFW including National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), ICMR and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MoIB) on disease surveillance, laboratory testing capacity and risk communications, respectively. Furthermore, WCO is ensuring that the information on suspected cases is being shared early and those confirmed being reported as per the International Health Regulations (2005).

WHO is supporting the Joint Monitoring Group on Emerging Diseases which brings together Line Ministries and agencies and has been providing continuous updates as well as technical guidance on risk assessment and reviewing preparedness and response.

WCO is providing support to ICMR on laboratory and research protocols and National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) for repurposing of Antiviral drugs for COVID-19.

WHO coordination with UN partners

WCO India and UNICEF are supporting MoHFW for preparedness and response planning including interventions for risk communication and community engagement. Furthermore, MoHFW is supported by UNICEF in coordination with WHO on the development of IEC materials and their dissemination.
among public through various communication channels. There are plans to augment this support based on needs assessment. The field offices of UNICEF have been coordinating with their respective State governments to plan their support in case COVID-19 situation escalates.

WCO India has kept UN country team and health partners updated on COVID-19 situation with daily information package and frequent meetings (held on 18, 20 and 21 February 2020).

**WCO support in Kerala**

WCO is closely working with the Principal Secretary, Directorate of Health Services and the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) and extending full support to the state as well as to districts through the extended network of WHO field personnel.

- The WHO medical officers have been repurposed in the state and districts and are actively supporting capacity building, coordination of meetings and attending to the state and district control room support. A total of eight WHO consultants have been deployed in 14 districts of Kerala for rapid response. WCO is supporting in strengthening of surveillance and response measures.
- WHO has shared updated technical information and facilitated partnerships with private hospitals in Kerala to provide isolation facilities.
- Additional support was provided to Kasaragod district to improve surveillance, contact tracing and data analysis.

**WCO support to other States**

In others states of India, the WHO field team is supporting in the tracking of the passengers returning from China, training of medical officers and rapid response teams, engaging with state and district officials of the IDSP for coordination and support, sharing daily updates at state and district level and, in some states, have assisted in airport assessment and translating COVID-19 guidance documents in local languages.

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Global Updates

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As of 13 February 2020, 2:30 pm (IST)

India situation

Between 30 January and 03 February 2020, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) reported three cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Kerala. These patients are in stable condition and are being closely monitored in hospital isolation.

The Prime Minister’s Office, MoHFW and the Cabinet Secretary are closely monitoring the emerging situation on COVID-19 in India.

Government of India (GoI) has issued travel advisories requesting the public to refrain from travel to China and that anyone with a travel history since 15 January 2020 from China will be quarantined on return. Further, e-Visa facility for Chinese passport holders has been suspended and existing visas (already issued) are no longer valid for any foreign national travelling from China to India.
As on 13 February 2020, a total of 251,447 passengers have been screened from 2,315 flights coming from China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Singapore and Thailand. Screening of passengers has been ongoing in 21 airports, 12 international seaports and border crossings particularly with Nepal. Presently over 15,991 passengers are in home quarantine and 497 suspect cases are in facility isolation in 34 States/Union Territories (UTs).

States have extended support to provide additional manpower to undertake screening and provide other logistic support to airport public health officers. States that do not have airports or seaports, such as Haryana and Chhattisgarh, have reported that special awareness drives have been initiated at toll plaza, bus stations and railway stations.

Ministry of Tourism is coordinating with the Hotels Association in India to encourage wider self-reporting by travelers visiting religious and other tourist places in identified states.

A total of 645 persons evacuated from Wuhan, have been quarantined at the camps maintained by Armed Forces and ITBP. They all have been tested negative for COVID-19 and will be re-tested again on completion of their quarantine period (14 days).

National Institute of Virology, Pune, of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is the apex laboratory for reconfirmation of any positive samples as well as for the quality assurance of the testing of samples for COVID-19. In addition, 13 Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs) and National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), New Delhi are performing tests for COVID-19. As of 12 February 2020, 1,725 samples have been tested of which only 3 were positive.

A 24x7 Control Room has been made operational (011-23978046) and IEC materials are being widely disseminated through various communications channels such as print, electronic and social media.

**Situation in Kerala**

In Kerala, the situation has stabilized with no new cases being detected since past one week. The State has lifted the state calamity status on 7 February in a high-level meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary. However, the state remains on guard and the surveillance strengthening, contact tracing, isolation and response activities are ongoing.

As of 13 February, total of 2,455 passengers returning from China have been identified out of which 2,431 have been placed under home quarantine and 24 have been admitted to different health facilities, where they are under medical observation. Till date, 389 samples of suspected cases have been sent to NIV, of which 354 samples have been tested negative and the remaining test results are pending.

The state and district control rooms in Kerala are activated and daily meetings are being held. Additionally, the medical officers and junior nursing staff have been trained in surveillance and contact tracing. For all 14 districts a Medical Board has been constituted with specialty experts to provide effective care for the patients. There is ongoing work to strengthen professional bodies like Indian Medical Association, Indian Academy of Pediatrics and Private Hospitals Association on surveillance, infection prevention and control, and case management.

Ambulances have been identified in each district and are prepared to be available on call. Risk Communications has been strengthened to address rumor, fake news and miscommunications. Psychosocial support is being provided to families of suspected persons.
WHO Response

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) support at national level

WCO is closely working with National Centre for Diseases Control (NCDC) on disease surveillance, with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) on laboratory testing capacity, and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on risk communications.

WCO is providing continuous updates and technical guidance on risk assessment, preparedness and response to the Joint Monitoring Group on Emerging Diseases, which brings together line ministries and agencies.

WCO is supporting ICMR on laboratory and research protocols and National AIDS Control Organization on re-purposing of Antiviral drugs for COVID-19.

In addition, information on suspected cases is being shared immediately and those confirmed are being reported to the global community as per the International Health Regulations, (IHR 2005). India has duly reported COVID-19 cases as per the IHR (2005) through the IHR National Focal Point.

WHO coordination with UN partners

WCO India and UNICEF are supporting MoHFW for preparedness, response planning, development of materials for risk communication and community engagement. UN country team, and health partners are being regularly updated on COVID-19 outbreak by WCO.

WCO support in Kerala

WCO is closely working with the Principal Secretary, Directorate of Health Services and the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) and extending full support to the state and districts through the extended network of WHO consultants working on Tuberculosis (TB), India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI) and National Public Health Surveillance Project (NPSP).

- The WCO medical officers have been repurposed in states and districts. They are actively supporting capacity building, coordination of meetings and attending to the state and district control room support. A total of eight WHO consultants have been deployed in 14 districts of Kerala for rapid response. WCO is supporting in strengthening surveillance and response measures.
- WCO has shared updated technical information and facilitated partnerships with private hospitals in Kerala to provide isolation facilities.
- Additional support provided to Kasaragod district to improve surveillance, contact tracing and data analysis.
WCO support in other States

The WCO field teams have been engaged in Uttar Pradesh, where the block monitors were used for passenger tracking and in other 26 states for response activities; supporting state and district control rooms; and closely working with the Principal Secretary and MD-NHM. WCO is also engaged in district task force meetings for enhanced surveillance and contact tracing.

The WCO field team are also supporting states in the tracking of the passengers, training medical officers and rapid response teams, engaging with state and district officials of IDSP for coordination and support, sharing daily updates at state and district level including with district magistrates and translating COVID-19 guidance documents in local languages (for some states).

Airport assessments were conducted in some states jointly with government officials.

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Dr Ritu Chauhan
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WHO India
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Global updates

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As of 06 February 2020, 7:31 am (IST)
India Situation

The Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and Cabinet Secretary are closely monitoring the emerging situation on novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in India on a daily basis.

Between 30 January and 3 February 2020, MoHFW confirmed three cases of 2019-nCoV in Kerala. These patients are in stable condition and are being closely monitored in hospital isolation.

MoHFW has designated, ICMR National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune as the nodal centre for coordinating diagnostics for 2019-nCoV. Additionally, 11 regional laboratories have been equipped and trained, and they now have started testing samples. As of 05 February 2020, 901 samples have been tested of which only 3 were positive.

Government of India (GoI) has issued travel advisories requesting the public to refrain from travel to China and that anyone with a travel history since 15th January 2020 from China will be quarantined on return.

Further, e-Visa facility for Chinese passport holders has been suspended and existing visas (already issued) are no longer valid for any foreign national travelling from China to India.

As on 06 February 2020, a total of 1108 flights have been screened covering a total of 121,000 passengers. Screening of passengers is ongoing in 21 airports, international seaports and border crossings particularly with Nepal. Presently over 6000 passengers from 29 States/UTs are under home quarantine.

States have extended support to provide additional manpower to undertake screening and provide other logistic support to airport public health officers. States that do not have airports or seaports, such as Haryana and Chhattisgarh, have reported that special awareness drives have been initiated at toll plaza, bus stations and railway stations.

Designated aero bridges are being used at seven international airports (Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Cochin, Bengaluru, Hyderabad & Chennai) at the dedicated gates to screen passengers from China, Singapore, Thailand and Hong Kong to minimize the risk of transmission. Ministry of Tourism is coordinating with the Hotels Association in India to encourage wider self-reporting by travelers visiting religious and other tourist places in identified states.

A 24x7 Control Room has been made operational (011-23978046) and IEC materials are being widely disseminated through various communications channels such as print, electronic and social media.
Situation in Kerala

On 3 February 2020, Kerala reported the third confirmed case of 2019-nCoV in Kasaragod (the first and second case was in Thrissur and Alapuzha, respectively). 91 contacts of these three laboratory confirmed cases are in home quarantine and being regularly followed-up. The State Disaster Management Committee had convened for a meeting and declared this outbreak as a state calamity.

The situation is being closely monitored by the Kerala Health Minister and Principal Health Secretary with daily press briefing being led by the Health Minister. Further, to ensure concerted and coordinated efforts to tackle the emerging situation, Kerala Chief Secretary had also convened for an intersectoral meeting of Secretaries from all government departments.

As of 5 February, 2,528 passengers returning from China have been identified out of which 2,435 have been placed under home quarantine and 93 have been admitted to different health facilities, where they are under medical observation.

Till date, 223 samples of suspected cases have been sent to ICMR NIV, of which 193 samples have been tested negative, 3 as positive and results for 27 are pending. Further, since 04 February 2020, ICMR NIV Alappuzha has become functional and has received 88 samples for testing so far.

The state and district control rooms in Kerala have been activated and daily meetings are being held. Additionally, the medical officers and junior nursing staff have been trained in surveillance and contact tracing. For all 14 districts a Medical Board has been constituted with specialty experts to provide effective care for the patients. There is ongoing work to strengthen professional bodies like Indian Medical Association, Indian Academy of Pediatrics and Private Hospitals Association on surveillance, infection prevention and control, and case management.

Ambulances have been identified in each district and are prepared to be available on call. Risk Communications has been strengthened to address rumor, fake news and miscommunications.

WHO Response

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) support at national level

WCO is closely working with key technical institutions of MoHFW including National Centre for Diseases Control (NCDC), the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on disease surveillance, laboratory testing capacity and risk communications, respectively.

As a member of the Joint Monitoring Group on Emerging Diseases which brings together Line Ministries and agencies (Ministry of Defense, Home affairs, Civil Aviation, Agriculture), WCO has been providing continuous updates and technical guidance on risk assessment and reviewing preparedness and response.

WCO is providing support to ICMR on laboratory and research protocols and National AIDS Control Organization for repurposing of Antiviral drugs for 2019-nCoV. In addition, WCO is ensuring that information on suspected cases are shared early and those confirmed are reported to global community as per the International Health Regulations (IHR).
**WHO coordination with UN partners**

UN country team, and health partners are being regularly updated on 2019-nCoV. On 28 January 2020, WHO Representative to India (WR) updated the UNCT team on 2019-nCoV and convened a Health Partners meeting on 04 February 2020.

**WCO support in Kerala**

WCO is closely working with the Principal Secretary, Directorate of Health Services and the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme and extending full support to the state and districts through the extended network of WHO consultants working on Tuberculosis (TB), India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI) and National Public Health Surveillance Project (NPSP). A total of eight WHO consultants have been deployed in 14 districts of Kerala for rapid response. WCO is supporting in strengthening surveillance and response measures. WCO has also been engaged in control room, rapid response teams (RRT) and deliberations at both state and district levels to support in decision-making, developing risk communication materials, private sector sensitization and follow-ups and case detection.

**WCO support in other States**

The WCO field teams have been engaged in Uttar Pradesh, where the block monitors were used for passenger tracking and in other 26 states for response activities; supporting state and district control rooms; and closely working with the Principal Secretary and MD-NHM. WCO is also engaged in district task force meetings for enhanced surveillance and contact tracing.

WCO has been closely working across the states for daily screening of passengers, tracking suspects, contact tracing, training RRTs, State and District, Surveillance Officers and Medical Officers of health facilities, engaging private sector for contact tracing; risk communications; sharing technical documents; and providing technical advice on personal protection equipment (PPE) and logistics.

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On 30 January 2020, Director-General WHO declared that the outbreak of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) as per the advice of International Heath Regulations (IHR) Emergency Committee.

- As on 31st January 2020, a total of 9720 confirmed cases and 213 deaths have been reported in China. The epicenter of the outbreak was initially in Wuhan City, Hubei province but has rapidly extended to all other provinces of China.
- Outside of China, 19 countries have reported a total of 106 confirmed cases, most with travel history from China. These countries are Australia (9), Cambodia (1), Canada (3), Finland (1), France (6), Germany (5), India (1), Italy (2), Japan (14), Malaysia (8), Nepal (1), Philippines (1), Singapore (13), South Korea (11), Sri Lanka (1), Thailand (14), UAE (4), USA (6), and Vietnam (5).
On 30 January 2020, a laboratory confirmed case of 2019-nCoV was reported in Kerala. The patient, a student returning from Wuhan, is currently in stable condition and cared for in hospital isolation.

The Prime Minister’s Office and the Ministry of Health, Family and Welfare (MoHFW) are closely monitoring 2019-nCoV situation and intensifying preparedness and response efforts.

Surveillance is being strengthened and enhanced at points of entry, in health facilities and in the community including contact tracing and follow up around the confirmed case.

Public health preparedness including surveillance, diagnostics, hospital preparedness, infection prevention and control, logistics and risk communication is being constantly reviewed by the national and state health authorities. The National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) has activated Strategic Health Operations Centre (SHOC) room to provide command and control functions and a helpline (+91-11-23978046) opened to answer public queries.

MoHFW and Ministry of Civil Aviation have initiated inflight announcements and entry screening for symptoms of fever and cough for travelers coming from China at 21 airports of India. Travel advisories

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**What are coronaviruses and how they can cause diseases?**

- Coronaviruses cause disease in a wide variety of animal species.
- SARS-CoV was transmitted from civet cats to humans in China in 2002 and MERS-CoV from dromedary camels to humans in Saudi Arabia in 2012.
- Several known coronaviruses are circulating in animals that have not yet infected humans.
- A spillover event is when a virus that is circulating in an animal species is found to have been transmitted to human(s).
- **Human to human transmission:** Based on current available information, coronaviruses may be transmitted from person to person either through droplets or contact.

**Who is at risk for 2019-nCoV infection?**

- People who live in or have visited an area of China that has been affected by the currently outbreak. This area was initially Wuhan City, Hubei Province but has subsequently extended elsewhere in China.
- People, including family members or health care workers, who are caring for a person infected with 2019-nCoV.
- People who are in contact with an animal harboring 2019-nCoV. This animal, yet unidentified, is believed to be sold at the Huanan Seafood Wholesales Market in Wuhan. Investigation is still ongoing to identify this animal, the source of outbreak.

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**INDIA SITUATION UPDATE**

- On 30 January 2020, a laboratory confirmed case of 2019-nCoV was reported in Kerala. The patient, a student returning from Wuhan, is currently in stable condition and cared for in hospital isolation.
- The Prime Minister’s Office and the Ministry of Health, Family and Welfare (MoHFW) are closely monitoring 2019-nCoV situation and intensifying preparedness and response efforts.
- Surveillance is being strengthened and enhanced at points of entry, in health facilities and in the community including contact tracing and follow up around the confirmed case.
- Public health preparedness including surveillance, diagnostics, hospital preparedness, infection prevention and control, logistics and risk communication is being constantly reviewed by the national and state health authorities. The National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) has activated Strategic Health Operations Centre (SHOC) room to provide command and control functions and a helpline (+91-11-23978046) opened to answer public queries.
- MoHFW and Ministry of Civil Aviation have initiated inflight announcements and entry screening for symptoms of fever and cough for travelers coming from China at 21 airports of India. Travel advisories
have been issued and signages have been put in place. So far, a total of 234 flights and 43346 passengers have been screened.

- MoHFW issued a travel advisory advising Indians to avoid non-essential travel to China.
- National Institute of Virology, Pune, equipped with international standards of expertise and capacity, has been testing samples of nCoV. So far 49 samples have been tested, of which 48 were negative.
- From 31 January 2020, 12 additional labs have started to function: (1) NIV Bengaluru, (2) Victoria Hospital Campus, Bengaluru (3), AIIMS, New Delhi (4), NCDC, New Delhi (5) Kasturba Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Mumbai (6) NIV Kerala, (7) ICMR – NICED, Kolkata (8) GMC, Secunderabad (9) KGMU, Lucknow (10) SMS, Jaipur (11) IGGMC, Nagpur and (12) KIPMR, Chennai.
- In villages bordering Nepal, gram panchayats are being organized to make people more aware regarding the symptoms, precautions and measures taken by the State Governments regarding prevention and management for 2019-nCoV.
- MoHFW has advised States to open their control rooms, appoint a nodal officer and popularize the control room number to enhance coordination between actors.
- Development and adaption of Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials in local languages is being done by the concerned States.
- Since beginning of January 2020, WHO India as a member of the Joint Monitoring Group and through other means has been providing MoHFW, NCDC, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting with technical advice, guidance and resources for enhanced vigilance, preparedness and response to 2019-nCoV at both national and sub-national level.
- WHO India continues to maintain regular communication with WHO South-East Asia Regional Office and WHO Headquarters as well as MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR, other agencies and countries through International Health Regulations (IHR) mechanisms.

**WHAT SHOULD PEOPLE DO?**

**Protect yourself from illness with respiratory pathogens by practicing hand and respiratory hygiene:**

- **Frequent hand-washing, especially after direct contact with ill people or their environment.**
- **People with symptoms of acute respiratory infection should practice cough etiquette (maintain distance, cover coughs and sneezes with disposable tissues or clothing, and wash hands).**
- **Avoiding close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory infections.**
- **Within healthcare facilities, enhance standard infection prevention and control practices in hospitals, especially in emergency departments.**
Reduce your risk of coronavirus infection:

Frequently clean hands by using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.

When coughing and sneezing cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue – throw tissue away immediately and wash hands.

Avoid close contact with anyone that has fever and cough.

Thoroughly cook meat and eggs.

Avoid unprotected contact with live wild or farm animals.

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