

September 1, 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

- Vice President asks DRDO scientists to intensify research to combat any pandemic threat in the future (<u>Link</u>)
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers, releases first commercial batch of COVAXIN manufactured in Ankleshwar, Gujarat (<u>Link</u>)
- India administered highest number of doses of COVID-19 vaccine (more than 13 million) in a day (Link)
- Union Home Secretary reviewed steps taken by State Governments of Kerala and Maharashtra for impeding the spread of COVID-19 (<u>Link</u>)
- Minister of State for AYUSH asserts that AYUSH medicines have proved effective in dealing with post COVID issues (<u>Link</u>)

WHO Situation Update

India

32,768,880 Confirmed Cases 438,560 Total Deaths

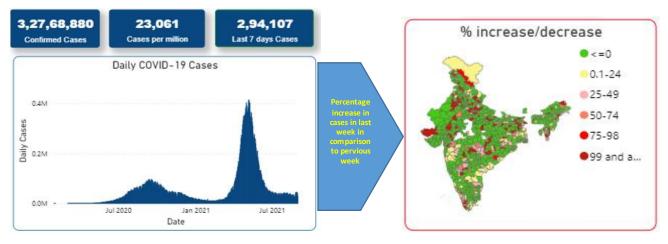
South East Asia Region 41,191,095 Confirmed Cases 643,250 Total Deaths

World

216,867,420 Confirmed Cases 4,507,837 Deaths

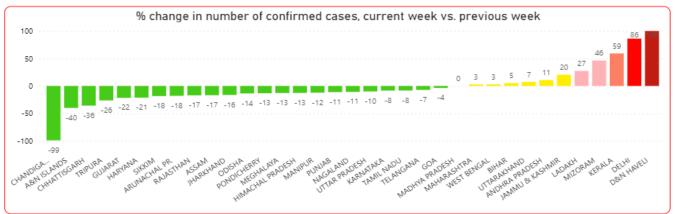
INDIA SITUATION

• In India, in the past 24 hours, 30,941 confirmed cases have been reported; highest number of cases in a day were 4,14,188; reported on 7th May 2021. For the last several weeks, daily cases have plateaued around 25-40,000. Cases per million is 23,061.



COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

In the past week (25-31 August), as compared to previous week (18-24 August), 11 states have shown an increase in cases while 23 states have shown a decline in cases. Higher decline has been reported from Chandigarh (-99%), A&N Islands (-40%), Chhattisgarh (-36%) and Tripura (-26%).



World Health Organization India

Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Situation Update Report – 83

September 1, 2021

- In **Delhi**, an action plan is being developed to respond to COVID-19 cases amongst children
- In **Uttarakhand**, six oxygen generation plants have been inaugurated and nine new oxygen plants will be established with the help of GoI in the near future
- In Uttar Pradesh, COVID-19 vaccine for kids will likely be introduced in the month of September

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO has developed the "Social and Behavioural Insights COVID-19 Data Collection Tool for Africa". The tool can be used by WHO Country Offices, NGOs, universities or other groups interested in capturing quantitative and qualitative social and behavioural data, details here
- The heads of the International Monetary Fund, World Bank Group, WHO and World Trade Organization met with the leaders of the African Vaccine Acquisition Trust (AVAT), Africa CDC, Gavi and UNICEF to tackle o bstacles to rapidly scale-up vaccines in low- and lower middle-income countries, particularly in Africa, details here
- WHO published a guidance document for countries and implementing partners on the technical requirements for issuing digital certificates for vaccination against COVDI-19. The full guidance can be found here. The guidance is part of a series of planned documents on digitalization of COVID-19 certificates, details here
- WHO releases new compendium of innovative health technologies for COVID-19 and other priority diseases, 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**
- WCO officials continue to participate in meetings on current response, third wave preparations, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc of their respective States
- State Unit has provided technical support in causality assessment meeting in Goa

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 COVID-19 vaccination Maha Abhiyaan in Madhya Pradesh

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance

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

Information and Planning

- Supported training of medical officers on routine immunization in **Telangana**
- Supporting training of District Surveillance Officers regarding COVID-19 response in Uttar Pradesh

RCCE

Supporting sensitization of religious leaders regarding COVID-19 vaccination in Delhi



September 1, 2021

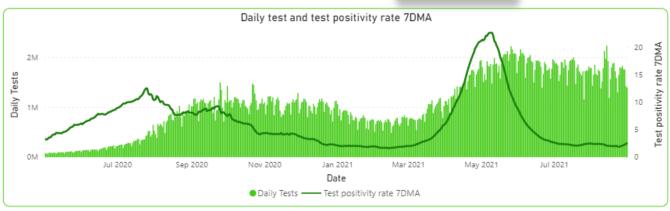
Essential Services

- Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala,
 Karnataka, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana
- Supporting Delhi, Karnataka, and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance
- Continuing to support Polio vaccination of international travelers from Afghanistan in Delhi

As of 31 August, India has tested more than 508 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India's current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.5%.

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 31 August 2021, 07:00 AM)



Beneficiaries vaccinated				
1 st Dose 2 nd Dose		Total Doses		
48,85,06,288	14,58,75,070	63,43,81,358		
22,07,010 in last 24 Hours	9,07,686 in last 24 hours	31,14,696 in last 24 Hours		

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

- Guidelines for domestic travel (flight/train/ship/ bus inter-state travel), MoHFW (LINK)
- FAQs on COVID-19 Vaccines and Vaccination Program, MoHFW (LINK)

CLICK HERE to access latest publications from WHO

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



September 8, 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

- Department of Biotechnology Mission COVID Suraksha supported Biological E Limited Novel COVID-19 Vaccine candidate— CORBEVAX receives DCGI approval for two clinical trials (<u>Link</u>)
- Prime Minister interacts with healthcare workers and beneficiaries of COVID vaccination program in Himachal Pradesh (<u>Link</u>)
- Centre reviews COVID-19 Vaccination with 11 North Eastern and Hill States/UTs (<u>Link</u>)
- India's cumulative COVID-19 vaccination coverage exceed 707 million doses (<u>Link</u>)
- Vice President urges public representatives, film and sports personalities to take lead in encouraging people to take vaccination (<u>Link</u>)
- Minister of State for H & FW discusses challenges and opportunities during the COVID-19 Pandemic at the WHO SEARO Ministerial Roundtable (Link)

WHO Situation Update

India

33,058,843 Confirmed Cases 441,042 Total Deaths

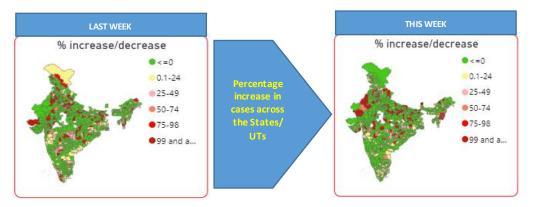
South East Asia Region 41,846,871 Confirmed Cases 656,542 Total Deaths

World

221,134,724 Confirmed Cases 4,574,089 Deaths

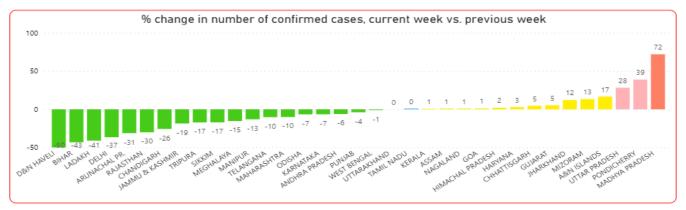
INDIA SITUATION

As of 7th September 2021, India reported a total of 33,058,843 confirmed cases. In the past 24 hours, 31,222 confirmed cases have been reported. In India, highest number of cases in a day were 4,14,188; reported on 7th May 2021. For the last several weeks, daily cases have plateaued around 30-40,000; cases per million is 23,265.



COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

• In the past week (1-7 September), as compared to previous week (25-31 August), fourteen states have shown an increase in cases while nineteen states have shown a decline in cases. Higher decline has been reported from D&N Haveli (-50%), Bihar (-43%), Ladakh (-41%) and Delhi (-37%).





September 8, 2021

- In **Odisha**, sero-survey has been initiated in 12 districts
- In Punjab, new COVID-19 guidelines released on social gatherings, and point of entry
- In **Uttar Pradesh**, District Surveillance Officers (DSOs) are being re-orientated on COVID-19 activities in light of concerns for COVID-19 surge in children

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO, Germany open Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin. New hub's mission is to provide the world with better data, analytics and decisions to detect and respond to health emergencies, details here
- International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and WHO
 issued Joint Statement on Access to Controlled Medicines in Emergencies; the statement call on governments
 to facilitate access to medicines containing controlled substances in emergency settings, including during
 pandemics and the increasing number of climate-related disasters, details here

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

<u>Coordination</u>

- WCO is monitoring the trends on weekly basis on specific indicators and thresholds and information being shared with State authorities
- 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 field staff 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 Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Punjab, and UP

COVID-19 vaccination

- Technical oversight during vaccination is provided by WHO teams at district and state levels
- WCO is providing support in monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring
- Supporting COVID-19 vaccination Maha Abhiyaan in Madhya Pradesh

Surveillance, Contact Tracing and Containment

Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in UttarPradesh;
 State and District field offices provided supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing, identify containment etc.

Ca pacity building

- Facilitated capacity building of District Immunization Officers (DIOs) using the immunization handbook for medical officers in Chhattisgarh
- Supporting sero-survey in **Himachal Pradesh**
- Attended Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) workshop conducted by NCDC in collaboration with CDC and WHO in Jammu & Kashmir

Essential Services

- Support provided to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in **Andhra Pradesh**, **Arunachal Pradesh**, **Nagaland**, **Tamil Nadu**, and **Telangana**
- Supporting Goa and Tamil Nadu with sensitization efforts for surveillance of AFP/MR/DPT
- Supporting launch of PCV vaccine in **Gujarat and Punjab**

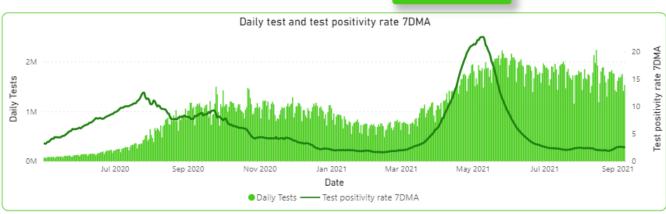


September 8, 2021

As of 8 September, India has tested more than 519 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India's current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.55%.







 $India\ continued\ to\ drive\ COVID-19\ vaccinations\ among\ various\ age\ group\ with\ preconditions,\ details\ \underline{here.}$

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

	Beneficiaries vaccinated		
	1 st Dose	2 nd Dose	Total Doses
VACCINATION	54,05,57,826	16,69,85,192	70,75,43,018
	53,45,400 in last 24 Hours	25,02,225 in last 24 hours	78,47,625 in last 24 Hours

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

- Progress report on covering every birth and death: improving civil registration and vital statistics in the WHO South East Asia Region (LINK)
- Monitoring progress on universal health coverage and the health-related Sustainable Development Goals in the South-East Asia Region (LINK)
- Access to medical products in the South-East Asia Region, 2021 (LINK)
- Addendum to guidelines on international arrivals dated 17 February 2021, MoHFW (LINK)

CLICK HERE to access latest publications from WHO

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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September 15, 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

- COVID Appropriate Behaviors very important, considering festive season, cautions COVID Working Group Chairman of NTAGI (<u>Link</u>)
- PM chairs a high level meeting to review COVID-19 situation and vaccination (Link)
- PM lauds Goa for 100% first dose vaccination in the State (Link)
- National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) has transferred the know-how of indigenously developed Saline Gargle RT-PCR technique, used for testing COVID-19 samples, to MSME Ministry (<u>Link</u>)
- Union Ministry of Health committed to strengthening health infrastructure across the country and fulfill Prime Minister's Vision of "Health for All" asserts Minster of State for Health (Link)

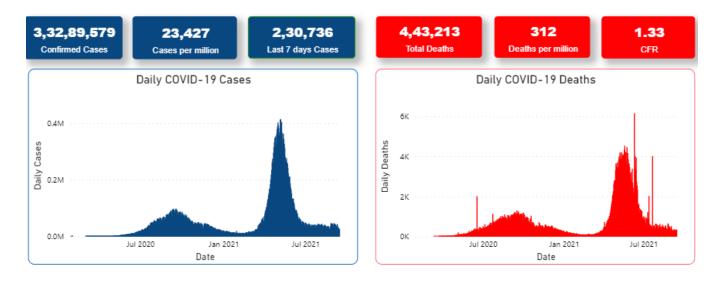
WHO Situation Update
India
33,289,579 Confirmed Cases
443,213 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region
42,261,127 Confirmed Cases
664,525 Total Deaths

World
225,024,781 Confirmed Cases
4,636,153 Deaths

INDIA SITUATION

As of 14th September 2021, India reported a total of 33,289,579 confirmed cases with the highest number of cases in a day (414,188) reported on 7th May 2021. From mid-July to end of August 2021 the daily cases were around 40,000. Since then it has started to decline gradually, reaching 25,404 in the past 24 hours. Cases per million is 23,427 and a total of 443,213 deaths have been reported till date.

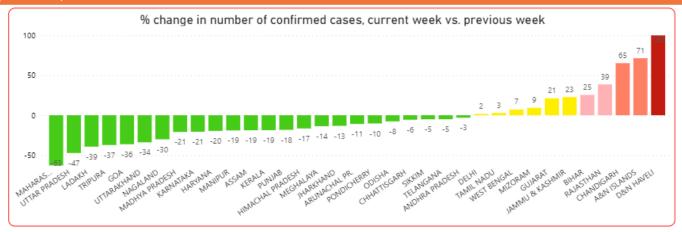


COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

• In the past week (9-14 September), as compared to previous week (1-7 September), a notable decline (20%) in the total number of cases reported across India. Higher decline has been reported from Maharashtra (-63%), Uttar Pradesh (-47%), Ladakh (-39%) and Tripura (-37%).



September 15, 2021



- In **Delhi**, COVID19 vaccination sites exclusively for females have been initiated in North East, Central, East and South West districts and there are plans to extend these sites to other districts as well
- In **Haryana**, the Government has directed vice-chancellors of residential universities to continue conducting online classes till October 15
- In Uttarakhand, CM has declared a special package for COVID19 patients and daily wagers

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO Director-General and Global leaders make urgent call to accelerate vaccination globally and in Africa. In their statement they have urged for vaccine equity globally and in Africa in particular, and have reiterated WHO's global vaccination target for 70% of the population of all countries to be vaccinated by mid-2022, details here
- WHO announces its 5th infodemic management conference. This will be held between 2 11 November 2021 and will bring together global experts over four sessions for discussions about quantifying the impact of the infodemic on public health, and the effectiveness of measures to mitigate the infodemic, 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.
- 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 officials of various States continue to participate in meetings on current response, third wave preparations, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc
- Supported documentation of COVID-19 response activities for Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai 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
- Supporting COVID-19 vaccination Maha Abhiyaan in Madhya Pradesh



September 15, 2021

Surveillance, Contact Tracing and Containment

- Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Uttar
 Pradesh
 - o 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 Uttar Pradesh

Capacity Building

- Supporting re-orientation of District Surveillance Officers (DSOs) in Uttar Pradesh on COVID-19 activities
- Supporting training of Medical Officers on Routine Immunization in Telangana

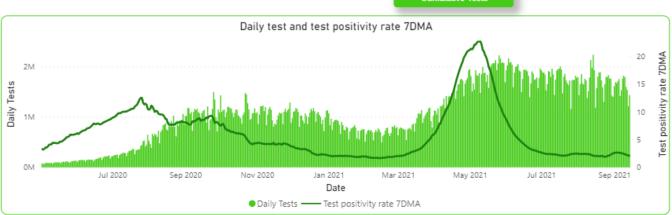
Essential Services

- Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in **Delhi**, **Andhra Pradesh**, **Karnataka**, **Kerala**, **Lakshadweep**, **Puducherry**, **Tamil Nadu**, and **Telangana**
- Supporting Karnataka and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance
- Supporting Tamil Nadu and Delhi with fever and rash surveillance

As of 15th September, India has tested more than 530 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India's current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.07%. A total of 1,430,891 tests reported on 14th September 2021.







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 September 2021, 07:00 AM)



Beneficiaries vaccinated					
1 st Dose	2 nd Dose	Total Doses			
57,46,57,255	18,42,55,022	75,89,12,277			
3,737,043 in last 24 Hours	2,378,647 in last 24 hours	6,115,690 in last 24 Hours			



September 15, 2021

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

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September 22, 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hon'ble Prime Minister interacts with healthcare workers and beneficiaries of the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Goa (Link)
- Cabinet Secretary chairs high level meet with States/UTs on public health response to COVID-19 and progress of vaccination (Link)
- Cabinet approves MoU between India and Italian Republic on Cooperation in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (Link)
- President asserts that the milestone of vaccinating over one crore people in a single day was possible only because of dedication and untiring efforts of nursing personnel (Link)
- OTT (Over-The-Top) channel of Department of Science & Technology launches interview to explaining symptoms of "long COVID" and gives advice on management of the same (<u>Link</u>)

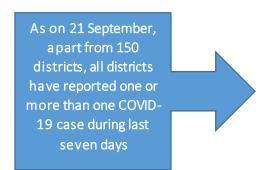
India
33,504,534 Confirmed Cases
444,385 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region
42,636,684 Confirmed Cases
670,630 Total Deaths

World
228,807,631 Confirmed Cases
4,697,099 Deaths

INDIA SITUATION

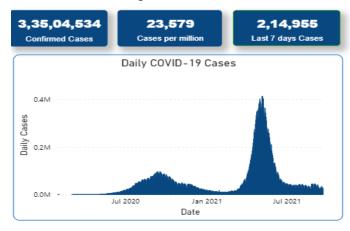
• Top five states, namely, Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh are contributing 56% of total cases. In the last seven days 2,14,955 cases reported in country with Kerala reporting highest number of cases (1,33,669, 70% of total cases) followed by Maharashtra (23,881) and Tamil Nadu (11,622).

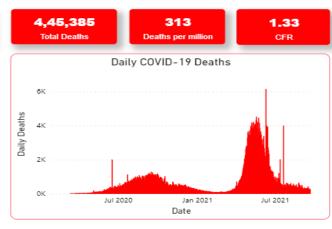




COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

In the past week (15-21 September), as compared to previous week (8-14 September), a gradual declining trend was observed (-7%) in the total number of cases reported across India. Higher decline has been reported from D&N Haveli (-100%), Jharkhand (-56%), Madhya Pradesh (-41%) and Chandigarh (-26%). The trend on daily cases and deaths are given below:





World Healt Organization India

Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Situation Update Report – 86

September 22, 2021

- In Madhya Pradesh, special vaccination campaign for pregnant mothers is ongoing (21-24 September)
- In **Punjab**, teaching and non-teaching school staff who are vaccinated with at least with one dose, have been asked to resume duties, subject to submission of weekly RTPCR negative test reports
- In **Uttar Pradesh**, special vaccination camps are being held for people with disabilities every Monday.

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO has expanded the global community of practice of infodemic managers to more than 500 trainees from 120 countries following the completion of the 2nd WHO Global Infodemic Management training, details here
- The heads of the International Monetary Fund, World Bank Group, WHO and WTO met with the CEOs of leading vaccine manufacturing companies to discuss strategies to improve the access to COVID-19 vaccines, especially in low- and lower middle-income countries and in Africa, details here
- WHO is urging leaders attending the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) to guarantee equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines and other life-saving tools; ensure the world is better prepared to respond to future pandemics; and renew efforts to achieve the SDGs, details here
- WHO has released a new competency framework, <u>Building a response workforce to manage infodemics</u>. WHO, in partnership with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), conducted qualitative research and consultation to produce this document, details <u>here</u>.

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**, **Ta mil Nadu**, **Telangana**, and **Puducherry**.
- WCO officials of various States continue to participate in meetings on current response, third wave preparations, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc

COVID-19 vaccination

- Technical 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.

Surveillance, Contact Tracing and Containment

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

Training and Operations Research

- Supporting training on IHIP portal in Odisha
- Supporting training of medical officers on Routine Immunization in Tamil Nadu
- Continuing to support re-orientation of District Surveillance Officers (DSOs) in Uttar Pradesh
- Supported mask compliance survey phase -III survey in West Bengal
- Supporting implementation of sero-survey in Himachal Pradesh

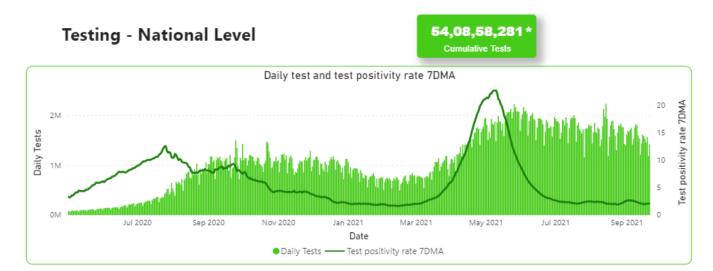


September 22, 2021

Essential Services

- Supporting Karnataka and Tamil Nadu in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance.
- Supporting Delhi, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, and West Bengal with fever and rash surveillance.

As of 21 September, India has tested more than 540 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India's current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.1%.



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 September 2021, 07:00 AM)

	Beneficiaries vaccinated		
(<u>@</u> F	1 st Dose	2 nd Dose	Total Doses
VACCINATION	61,43,90,226	21,21,25,528	82,65,15,754
	45,44,193 in last 24 Hours	30,13,336 in last 24 hours	75,57,529 in last 24 Hours

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

FAQs: COVID-19 vaccines and breastfeeding based on WHO interim recommendations (LINK)

CLICK HERE to access latest publications from WHO

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September 29, 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED), UNICEF, & WHO promote health with livelihood activities through a focused vaccination campaign in tribal districts (Link)
- MoHFW organizes an interactive workshop with radio stations from across India on the need to amplify messages regarding the importance of COVID-Appropriate Behaviour during festivities (Link)
- Vice President calls for addressing the shortage of doctors and paramedical workers in a mission mode (<u>Link</u>)
- Prime Minister of India launches countrywide Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (<u>Link</u>)

WHO Situation Update
India

33,697,581 Confirmed Cases 447,373 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region 42,919,646 Confirmed Cases 674,875 Total Deaths

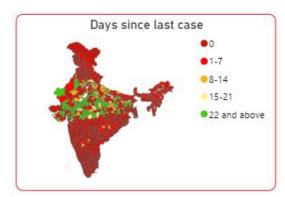
World

232,075,351 Confirmed Cases 4,752,988 Deaths

INDIA SITUATION

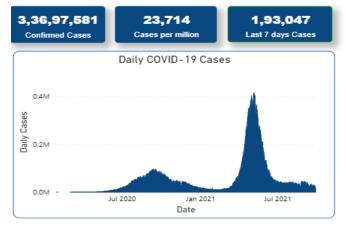
• In India, highest number of cases in a day were 4,14,188; reported on 7 May 2021. Since last one -week, daily cases are showing declining trend; and on 29 September, 18870 cases were reported. Currently, India reports 23,714 cases per million (7DMA).

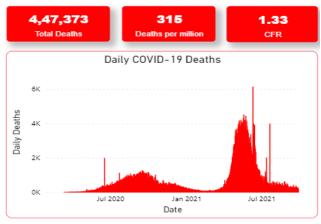




COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

In the last seven days (22-28 September), 1,93,047 cases reported in country with Kerala reporting highest number of cases (1,17,429, 61% of total cases) followed by Maharashtra (19,827) and Tamil Nadu (11,882). In the past week (22-28 September), as compared to previous week (15-21 September), ten states have shown an increase in cases while twenty-four states have shown a decline in cases. Higher decline has been reported from Ladakh (-62%), Bihar (-32%), Uttarakhand (-26%) and Tripura. Trend of new cases & deaths is given below:





World Health Organization India

Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Situation Update Report – 87

September 29, 2021

- In **Delhi**, all districts have been directed to organize mega-camps for next 4 Sundays and display the name of session sites in newspaper/social media one-week advance.
- In **Jammu and Kashmir**, inter-state movement of passengers shall be permitted for fully vaccinated persons or persons with verifiable RTPCR not older than 72 hours / on-the-spot RAT.
- In Uttarakhand, nine new oxygen plants will be initiated in state with the help of GOI in next few days.

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO has released a game called <u>GO VIRAL!</u> which helps protect people against COVID-19 misinformation. It will help learn about some of the most common ways false and misleading information about the virus are spread. Scientists who worked with WHO on the development of GO VIRAL! found that playing the game significantly improves people's ability to spot misinformation about COVID-19, details here.
- Global leaders attending the Global COVID-19 Summit hosted by the United States have again underlined their commitment to ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines for all countries through COVAX- noting that equitable access is essential to end the acute stage of the pandemic, details here
- Data compiled by WHO indicates that 2020 preventive chemotherapy treatment coverage of Neglected Tropical Disease (NTDs) declines due to COVID-19 disruptions, details here
- ACT-Accelerator partnership welcomes leadership and commitments at US COVID Summit to ending COVID-19 pandemic through equitable access to tests, treatments, and vaccines, details here
- On new recommendation for treatment of COVID-19 patients: WHO calls for equitable access to casirivimab and imdevimab for COVID-19, details here
- A new book published by WHO aims to help children stay hopeful and positive during the COVID-19 pandemic. The story is a sequel to 'My Hero is You: how kids can fight COVID-19!', published in April 2020, details here
- Joint activities with DKT International, Ipas, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), MSI
 Reproductive Choices, Pathfinder International, PSI, UNFPA and others, demonstrate the power of knowledge
 sharing to safeguard access to safe and timely comprehensive abortion care (including post-abortion care)
 during and beyond the pandemic, details here

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination

- WCO is monitoring the epidemiological trends using WCO alert dashboard with predefined indicators and thresholds; the observations are being periodically shared with NCDC and the 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**.
- WCO officials of various States continue to participate in meetings on current response, third wave preparations, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc

COVID-19 vaccination

- Technical 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.
- Supported **Arunachal Pradesh** in drafting guidance notes on COVID vaccination coverage for 1st and 2nd dose for females and those above 60 years



September 29, 2021

Surveillance, Contact Tracing and Containment

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

Training and Operations Research

- Supporting implementation of sero-survey in Odisha and Himachal Pradesh.
- Supported training for COVID environmental surveillance in **Punjab and Chandigarh UT.**
- Facilitated state level training of RI microplanning and immunization handbook of ANMs in Delhi.

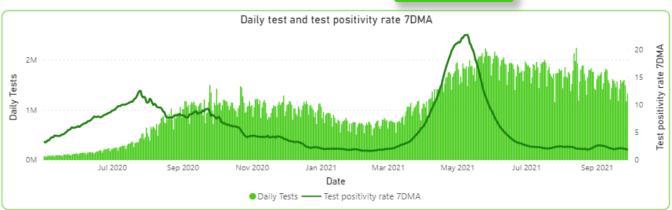
Essential Services

- Providing technical support to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in **Arunachal Pradesh**, **Delhi**, and **Madhya Pradesh**.
- Supporting urban area microplanning for essential immunization including Sub National Immunization Days in **Delhi**.
- Supporting **Delhi** with fever and rash surveillance.
- Supporting strengthening of ILI/SARI surveillance among the pediatric age group in Odisha.

As of 28 September, India has tested more than 551 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India's current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 1.9%.







IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

- Therapeutics and COVID-19: living guideline (<u>LINK</u>)
- Gujarat's Interim Review of Noteworthy Actions in Response to COVID-19 (LINK)
- Neglected tropical diseases: impact of COVID-19 and WHO's response (LINK)

CLICK HERE to access latest publications from WHO

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT