

10	229 244	3 899	11 851 207	181 032
Countries reporting cases	New cases (week 52/2020)	New deaths (week 52/2020)	Total cumulative cases (at end of week 52)	Total cumulative deaths (at end of week 52)

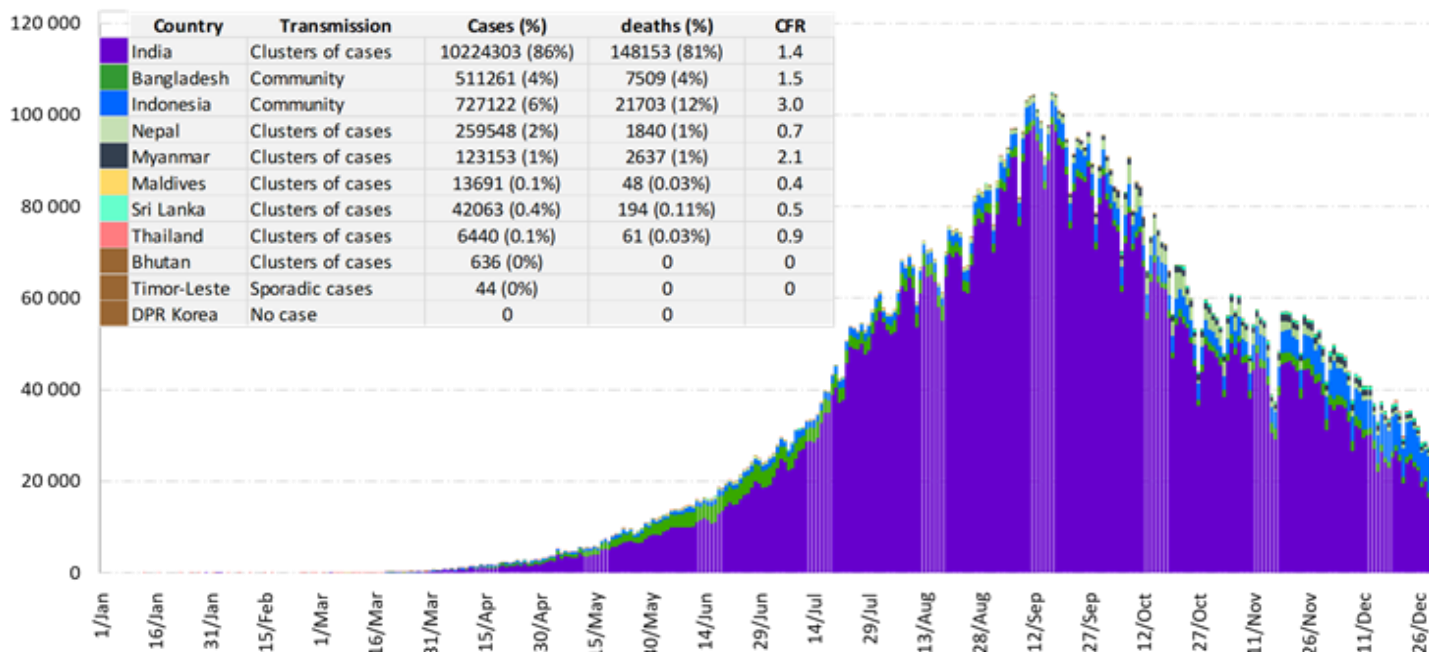
Situation update:

- The weekly percentage increase in cumulative cases in the Region for the week #52 was 2.0% (229 244 new cases) a slight decrease than the previous weekly increase of 2.2% reported and the percentage increase in deaths was 2.2% (3 899 new deaths) which again is slightly lower than the last week's reported percentage increase of 2.3%
- The South-East Asia Region (SEAR) has the lowest weekly increase (2%) in cumulative cases among all WHO Regions viz Africa Region (6.6%), European Region (6.2%), Region of Americas (5.6%), Western Pacific Region (5.1%) and Eastern Mediterranean Region (3.3%).
- The highest weekly percentage increase in cases in the region is reported in Bhutan(34%, 151 cases) followed by Timor-Leste (32%, 10 cases), Thailand (25%, 1234 cases), Sri Lanka (10.2%, 3,793 cases), Indonesia (7.3%, 48,435 cases) and Myanmar (5.8%, 6,699 cases).
- Two member states in the region, Bangladesh and Indonesia continue to report community transmission, while seven member states namely India, Nepal, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bhutan and Thailand reported clusters of cases and only Timor-Leste reported sporadic cases.
- In Thailand, 2 clusters of more than 2500 cases in Samut Sakhon (linked to a fish market) and Rayong provinces contributing to >80% of newly reported cases and cases linked to this cluster are being reported in 48 provinces. Active case finding and contact tracing are ongoing.
- In Sri Lanka, Peliyagoda Fish market cluster has led to several sub clusters at district levels. 90% of cases reported so far in Sri Lanka belong to the Minuwangoda/Peliyagoda cluster. Cases have been declining for the past 2 consecutive weeks.
- In Bhutan, local transmission is reported in Thimphu and active contact tracing is ongoing. There has been a lockdown in effect since December 20.
- In Maldives, cases continue to show a declining trend and cases are mostly concentrated in the Greater Male region. A cluster of 41 cases is linked to a wedding
- In Myanmar, there is evidence of transmission in Rakhine, Yangon, Sagaing, Bago, Mandalay. An increasing number of new cases are being reported outside of Yangon.

- In Nepal, the number of new cases as well as the number of tests continue to decrease following the festival season. The test Positivity Rate(TPR) is still high at around 12-13%.
- In Indonesia, there is an upward trend of reported cases and a very high TPR of around 20%.
- In Timor-Leste, 13 confirmed cases were detected in the past 2 weeks during routine testing of incoming travelers at the quarantine facility.

Country	Transmission Status Reported by Member State	Cases	Deaths	CFR	Cases Per Million population	Deaths per Million population	Test Positivity Rate (Last 7 DMA)
Bangladesh	Community transmission	512 496	7 531	1.5	3 111.9	45.7	8.5%
Bhutan	Clusters of cases	655	-	0	848.9	0	0.7%
DPR Korea	No cases	-	-	0	-	0	
India	Clusters of cases	10 244 852	148 439	1.4	7 423.8	107.6	2.3%
Indonesia	Community transmission	735 124	21 944	3.0	2 687.6	80.2	20.8%
Maldives	Clusters of cases	13 691	48	0.4	25 328.3	88.8	1.0%
Myanmar	Clusters of cases	123 740	2 664	2.2	2 274.2	49.0	4.0%
Nepal	Clusters of cases	260 059	1 847	0.7	8 925.4	63.4	11.8%
Sri Lanka	Clusters of cases	42 063	194	0.5	1 964.3	9.1	4.5%
Thailand	Clusters of cases	6 690	61	0.9	95.8	0.9	1.0%
Timor-Leste	Sporadic cases	44	-	0	33.4	0.0	0.6%

Table data as of 30 December 2020; 7:00 PM IST



Country	New cases in last 7 days (%)	Change in new cases in last 7 days*	Cumulative cases (%)	New deaths in last 7 days (%)	Change in new deaths in last 7 days*	Cumulative death (%)	Test Positivity Rate Last 7DMA
Bangladesh	6 393 (4%)	-29%	511 261 (4.3%)	150 (5%)	-26%	7 509 (4.2%)	8.5%
Bhutan	117 (0.1%)	46%	636 (0.1%)	0 (0%)	0%	0 (0%)	0.6%
DPR Korea	0 (0%)	0%	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0%	0 (0%)	
India	100 525 (62.3%)	-47%	10 224 303 (85.9%)	1 397 (46%)	-47%	148 153 (81.4%)	2.3%
Indonesia	41 483 (25.7%)	-16%	727 122 (6.2%)	1 295 (42.6%)	12%	21 703 (12%)	20.8%
Maldives	154 (0.1%)	14%	13 691 (0.2%)	0 (0%)	0%	48 (0.1%)	1%
Myanmar	5 207 (3.3%)	-28%	123 153 (1.1%)	153 (5.1%)	-7%	2 637 (1.5%)	4%
Nepal	3 569 (2.3%)	-30%	259 548 (2.2%)	37 (1.3%)	-38%	1 840 (1.1%)	11.8%
Sri Lanka	3 424 (2.2%)	-12%	42 063 (0.4%)	10 (0.4%)	-58%	194 (0.2%)	4.5%
Thailand	611 (0.4%)	-61%	6 440 (0.1%)	1 (0.1%)	0%	61 (0.1%)	1%
Timor-Leste	8 (0.1%)	60%	44 (0.1%)	0 (0%)	0%	0 (0%)	0.6%

*Percent change in the number of newly confirmed cases/deaths in past seven days, compared to seven days prior.

Operational update

Key updates

Points of entry, international travel, and transport:

- All Points of Entry (PoE) are closed with some exemption on visa restriction for certain criteria. Quarantine is required by all visitors.
- India: suspended flights from the United Kingdom temporarily from 23 December till 31 December
- Bangladesh: Mandatory institutional quarantine for 14 Days for passengers coming to Bangladesh from the United Kingdom (directly or through any intermediate points) regardless of COVID-19 negative results till 15 January
- Indonesia:
 - All Foreigners from the United Kingdom traveling to Indonesia, either directly or by transit through another country, are not allowed to enter
 - Travelers from Europe and Australia, traveling either directly or by transit through another country, shall present a negative RT-PCR test result within 48 hours prior to departure
 - Mandatory self-isolation at a hotel for 5 days and twice RT-PCR testing upon arrival and 5 days after the arrival
- Timor Leste: Border posts existing in the Special Administrative Region of Oe-cusse Ambeno (RAEOA) are closed till 2 January

Laboratory:

- Need assessments are underway to support the leveraging of Influenza surveillance for COVID-19

Infection prevention and control:

- The available information on the new variant of SARS-CoV-2 that emerged in UK; was disseminated to India to facilitate necessary adaptations in preparedness for and response interventions to prevent the spread of the new strain within India .

Key country updates

Bangladesh

- Bangladesh's cabinet has decided to introduce a mandatory two-week institutional quarantine for passengers arriving from the United Kingdom (UK) as a precautionary measure and early detection of the new variant of SARS-CoV-2 that was reported in the UK. Bangladesh has not reported the highly-contagious new variant of the virus in the country so far.
- During the reporting week No 52, three positive cases were identified at the designated points of entries (2 from India and 1 from Lebanon)

Bhutan

- Severe restrictions on movements imposed nationwide by the Government of Bhutan that started on 23 December 2020 to contain the spread of SARS-CoV-2 was continued.
- The Ministry of Health (MoH) started mass testing as a part of surveillance. People will be randomly selected and communicated via phone with details of time and stations for testing. MoH has trained Dessups (volunteers) to support mass screening. As of 27 December 2020, 8 400 samples have been collected
- WHO supported setting up of two additional influenza clinics in Thimphu to test more people

DPR Korea

- No reported case of COVID-19 as of 24 December 2020.
- Continuous surveillance is ongoing, samples are being tested for COVID-19 in 15 laboratories including 13 sub-national laboratories
- As of 24 December 2020, cumulatively, 24 704 samples from 12 489 persons (787 persons in the period 18-24 December) have been tested with reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) at an interval of 10 days and all were found negative for COVID-19
- All points of entry (PoEs) are closed for an uncertain period

India

- The National Task Force on COVID-19 was convened on 26 December to discuss evidence-based modifications in testing, treatment and surveillance strategies for SARS-CoV-2 in view of the recent reports of emergence of a new variant of the virus detected in the United Kingdom. The need to identify individuals infected with the new variant of the virus and adequately containing them was considered critical for preventing its transmission in India
- The Ministry of Home Affairs plans to conduct training sessions of state level nodal officers for identifying frontline workers and maintaining their databases. These frontline workers are the first ones to be vaccinated on voluntary-basis
- As a step to prepare for rolling out COVID-19 vaccination, and to assess the readiness of the planned activities, a dry run has been planned in four states to start with, viz. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat and Punjab considering the geographical locations. Each State will plan it in two districts and preferably in five different settings; e.g.; district hospital, CHC/PHC, urban site, private health facility and rural outreach etc.

Indonesia

- The Indonesia government has announced the temporary closure of entries for foreign nationals from all countries from 1-14 January 2021, due to concerns over emergence of a new virus variant of SARS-CoV-2 in the United Kingdom

Maldives

- The government extended the state of emergency until January 2021. New regulations enacted and guidelines imposing fines up to USD 6 490 (MVR 100 000) for violating safety guidelines set by the Director General of Public Health have been published.

- The Health Emergency Operations Centre (HEOC) revealed that a total of 41 individuals were confirmed to have COVID-19 from the cluster identified following a wedding ceremony at the Society for Health Education building in the capital of Male'. The gathering of approximately 120 individuals was held in that poorly ventilated hall on 20 December 2020. Over 116 contacts were identified and quarantined.
- With the new variant of COVID-19 circulating in the UK, the Technical Advisory Group at the HEOC has announced a new measure as a precaution- for Maldivians and work permit holders traveling from the UK to Maldives will require a mandatory quarantine of 10 days and will be released only with a negative PCR test post quarantine.
- WHO is supporting to develop a state-of-art Cold Chain System in the country that will be necessary for COVID-19 vaccine introduction and to effectively manage the EPI Programme currently and in future.

Myanmar

- The final draft of the joint addendum for harmonization of the contingency plan of the Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS) and UN's Country Preparedness and Response Plan shared with the MoHS on 23 December 2020. The target implementation period is from 1 January- 31 December 2021.
- All parks and public places will be shut down from 21-31 December 2020 to prevent large gatherings during the holiday season on recommendation from the national level central committee on prevention, control and treatment of COVID-19.

Nepal

- The Ministry of Health and Population received 100 000 antigen test kits from WHO that were distributed to the Gandaki Province, Province 1 and Sudurpaschim Province.
- WHO provided technical support to the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) for carrying out the proficiency testing in 24 laboratories
- Assistance provided to conduct rapid assessment of oxygen source, availability and bed capacity in 18 hospitals (13 government hospitals and 5 medical colleges) in Kathmandu valley
- Ongoing support for construction of health screening desk at the domestic airport and the point of arrival at the international terminal of Tribhuvan International Airport was completed by 25 December 2020

Sri Lanka

- Most of the COVID-19 cases continue to be reported from the Western Province and Kegalle district while the rest of the districts report less than 100 cases during the week. A' pura, Ratnapura, Kegalle and Trincomalee report higher number of cases than in the previous week
- In this week, 89 463 tests were done for COVID-19 which is lower than the previous week. As of 26 December 2020, a cumulative 1 192 128 PCR tests have been conducted
- 1 179 people were repatriated during the week. Total cumulative repatriations are at 65 929 people as of 26 December 2020. During the week 1 664 persons arrived in Sri Lanka
- Points of entry opened to commercial passengers' carriers from 26 December 2020.












































































Thailand

- As a result of screening and/or active case finding in Samut Sakhon, 11 620 individuals have been tested of which 1234 (10.6%) were reported confirmed COVID-19 cases by 27 December. The number of cases detected on a daily basis continues to be on a downward trend
- Emergency Operating Centres have been activated in eight provinces neighbouring Samut Sakhon to support provincial health teams in order to conduct active case finding for COVID-19 cases
- The migrant hotline number is 1 422. The hotline continues to provide support in Myanmar, Khymer and Laos languages
- A nationwide ban on large events and other 'mass gatherings' remain in place

Timor-Leste

- The Ministry of Health, with technical support from WHO, conducted a three-days refresher training and simulation exercise on public health disaster management in Manatuto district.

Public Health and Social Measure (24-30 December 2020)

Member State	Movement restriction	Public transport (Inter province movement)	School measures	Public gathering	Mask use
Bangladesh	None 	Resumed    		Ban 	Mandatory
Bhutan	Nationwide  (Seven days from 23 December)	Restricted    		Ban 	Mandatory
DPR Korea	Partial 	Restricted    		Ban  >5	Mandatory
India	Partial  (Restrictions in containment zones & for other areas local authorities to decide)	Restricted*    	 (Vary across States)	 (Ban >100 indoor gatherings; vary across States)	Mandatory
Indonesia	Partial 	Restricted*    	 (Vary across provinces)	 (Requirements vary across Provinces)	Mandatory
Maldives (Emergency extended until 4 January)	Partial 	Resumed   	 (Schools remain closed for grade 8 & lower)	Ban  > 15	Mandatory
Myanmar	Partial 	Restricted*    		Ban 	Mandatory
Nepal	None 	   	 (Reopened in some Municipalities)	Ban  >25	Mandatory
Sri Lanka	Partial  (Restrictions imposed in specified Isolation areas)	Restricted*    	 (Schools remain closed in western and Trincomalee province)	Ban 	Mandatory
Thailand (Emergency extended until 15 Jan)	Partial  (Restrictions imposed at Samut Sakhon province)	Restricted*     (At Myanmar border)		Ban 	Mandatory
Timor-Leste (Emergency extended until 2 Jan)	Partial 	Partial    (Restricted until 2 nd Jan 21)		Ban  > 10	Mandatory

*Public transport resumed with limited capacity and in limited routes – variations at Sub National level

HEALTH
EMERGENCIES
programme

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