HIGHLIGHTS

- Union Health Minister launches the Polio Immunization Drive, 2022 (Link)
- Union Health Minister launches ICMR/ DHR Policy on Biomedical Innovation & Entrepreneurship initiative (Link)
- Union Minister of State for H & FW addresses the Western Region Dissemination Workshop of National Family Health Survey – 5 (Link)
- Union Health Minister felicitates “Best Women Covid-19 Vaccinators” on International Women’s Day (Link)
- Cabinet approves MoU signed between the Indian Council of Medical Research, India and the Oxford University, UK (Link)
- Cabinet approves MoU signed between the ICMR, India and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V. (DFG), Germany (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 8 March 2022, India reported a total of 42,971,308 confirmed cases. Since 6 March, India’s daily case incidence remains below 5000; and declining on daily basis.

A total of 7,416 patients have recovered in the last 24 hours and the cumulative tally of recovered patients (since the beginning of the pandemic) is now at 42,413,566. (Source: https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1804193)

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

- In the past week (2-8 Feb.), as compared to previous week (23 Mar. – 1 Feb.), all states have shown a decline in cases. Larger declines were reported from Pondicherry (-75%), Assam (-72%), Madhya Pradesh (-65%) and Rajasthan (-63%).
- Top ten districts reporting highest number of cases during last week all have shown decrease in number of cases.
• In comparison to previous week (23 Mar. – 1 Feb.), 49 districts have shown an increase in new cases during last week (2-8 Feb.).
• As on 8 March 2022, India has reported 515,276 COVID-19 deaths with case fatality rate (CFR) of 1.2%. Maharashtra has reported highest number of COVID-19 deaths (1,43,743) followed by Kerala (66,307) and Karnataka (39,999).
• In the past week (2-7 Feb.), India has reported 1,253 deaths, of which the highest were in Kerala (974) followed by Karnataka (49) and Maharashtra (42). Two states Meghalaya (100%) & Rajasthan (29%) have shown increase in deaths while twenty-five states have shown decline in deaths. Higher declines were reported from Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh, Pondicherry, Sikkim, and Telangana (-100% each).
• Punjab has reported highest CFR (2.3%) followed by Nagaland (2.1%), Maharashtra (1.8%), Uttarakhand (1.8%), Meghalaya (1.7%) and Goa (1.6%)

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• WHO Director General call for critical medical supplies to safely reach those who need them, and are working with partners to establish safe transit for shipments through Poland, details here
• WHO in collaboration with Monash University Australia, Center for Inclusive Policy, HelpAge International, Liliane Foundation, Africa Disability Alliance, Kabul Orthopedic Organization, and Pacific Disability Forum publishes the finding on experiences of more than 140 people who use or provide assistive technology (AT) worldwide to understand the impacts of COVID-19 and to inform better preparation and responses to future crises, details here
• WHO and the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) jointly welcome the announcement that the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) will offer several technologies to the COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP), details here
• WHO, FAO and World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) issued joint statement on the prioritization of monitoring SARS-CoV-2 infection in wildlife and preventing the formation of animal reservoirs, details here
• Heads of WHO, IMF, World Bank Group, and WTO held high-level consultations with UNICEF, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the Global Lead Coordinator for the COVID-19 Vaccine Country Readiness and Delivery and the CEOs of leading vaccine manufacturers for ensuring the rapid delivery of vaccines, details here
• WHO issued interim Statement on COVID-19 vaccines in the context of the circulation of the Omicron SARS-CoV-2 Variant from the WHO Technical Advisory Group on COVID-19 Vaccine Composition (TAG-CO-VAC), details here

WHO COUNTRY SUPPORT: A SNAPSHOT

• Technical guidance shared including emerging evidence on COVID-19 including variants and its sub-lineages. Evidence are being synthesized on weekly basis and shared with authorities at National, States and District levels.
• WHO field officials continue to participate in meetings on current COVID-19 response, vaccination etc.; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc
• Vaccination sessions across the country is supported by and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring; including roll out of COVID19 vaccination for the age group 15-18 years.
• District level workshops on KA, Lymphatic Filariasis, and Leprosy were supported in UP.
• RI reorientations for medical officers, vaccinators and cold chain handlers were conducted at district level in Karnataka.
• Intensified MI 4.0 supported in Haryana, J&K, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana in planning for
Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)
Situation Update Report – 109

March 9, 2022

- National Immunization Day supported in Haryana, Punjab, Bihar, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana.

TESTING

- India has so far conducted over 77.52 Cr (77,52,08,471) cumulative tests; The last 24 hours saw a total of 8,97,904 tests have been conducted.
- As of 9 March 2022, Weekly Positivity Rate in the country currently stands at 0.62% and the Daily Positivity rate is reported to be 0.51%. (Source: https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1804208).

COVID-19 VACCINATION

- With the administration of more than 18.69 lakh Doses (18,69,103) vaccine doses in the last 24 hours, India’s COVID-19 vaccination coverage has exceeded 179.33 Cr (1,79,33,99,555) as on 9 March 2022.
- This is achieved with 2,08,48,528 sessions; break-up of the cumulative figures & coverage given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cumulative Vaccine Dose Coverage</th>
<th>1st Dose</th>
<th>2nd Dose</th>
<th>Precautionary dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HCWs</td>
<td>1,04,02,292</td>
<td>99,78,958</td>
<td>42,68,734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FLWs</td>
<td>1,84,10,832</td>
<td>1,74,66,501</td>
<td>64,41,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Group 15-18 years</td>
<td>5,55,80,872</td>
<td>3,20,34,392</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Group 18-44 years</td>
<td>55,28,59,320</td>
<td>45,16,84,524</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Group 45-59 years</td>
<td>20,24,50,051</td>
<td>18,18,71,562</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 60 years</td>
<td>12,65,40,606</td>
<td>11,32,63,060</td>
<td>1,01,46,371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Precaution Dose</td>
<td>2,08,56,585</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAND TOTAL</td>
<td>1,79,33,99,555</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Centre has provided more than 180.30 crore (1,80,30,59,600) vaccine doses have been provided to States/UTs so far through Govt. of India (free of cost channel) and through direct state procurement category.

More than 15.80 Cr (15,80,54,336) balance and unutilized COVID Vaccine doses are still available with the States/UTs to be administered. Source: https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1804194

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

- Infection prevention & control in the context of coronavirus disease (COVID-19): A living guideline (LINK)
- Interim recommendations for use of the Moderna mRNA-1273 for COVID-19 (LINK), Annexes (LINK)
- Report of the WHO global technical consultation on PHSMs during health emergencies (LINK)
- Mental Health and COVID-19: Early evidence of the pandemic’s impact: Scientific brief (LINK)
- Therapeutics and COVID-19: living guideline (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