HIGHLIGHTS

• COVID-19 Vaccination for 12-14 years initiated in all States/UTs ([Link])
• India on the verge of achieving SDG target of Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) of 70/ lakh live births by 2030 ([Link])
• Union Minister of Health delivers keynote address at webinar on “India’s Public Health Response to manage COVID-19” with NGOs ([Link])
• Union Cabinet approves continuation of National AIDS and STD Control Programme (Phase-V) from 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2026 ([Link])
• Union Minister of Health launches BRICS Vaccine R&D Centre ([Link])

INDIA SITUATION

As of 22 March 2022, India reported a cumulative total of 43,010,971 confirmed cases. Highest number of cases in a day were 4,14,188; reported on 7 May 2021 during second wave. During third wave highest cases in a day were 3,47,254 cases reported on 21 January 2022, since then there is a continued decline in cases.

WHO Situation Update

India
43,010,971 Confirmed Cases
516,543 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region
56,866,626 Confirmed Cases
772,850 Total Deaths

World
470,839,745 Confirmed Cases
6,092,933 Deaths

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

• Top five states, namely, Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh have contributed 56% of total cases in country.
• Among the States, Maharashtra is leading with highest number of cases (more than seven million); Kerala has reported more than six million cases, followed by Karnataka & Tamil Nadu with more than three million cases. Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal have reported more than two million cases each.
• States with more than one million reported cases are Delhi, Odisha, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh.
• In the past week (16-22 March), as compared to previous week (09-15 March), all states have shown decline in cases except DNH Haveli, Tripura & Assam. Larger declines were reported from Arunachal Pradesh (-92%), Jharkhand (-83%), MP (-72%) and Manipur (-63%).
During last seven days, 14,909 new cases reported in country with Kerala reporting highest number of cases (5,738, 38% of total cases) followed by Mizoram (1,525) and Maharashtra (1,153).

Apart from one hundred fifty-nine districts, all other districts have reported one or more than one COVID-19 case during last seven days.

Top ten districts in the table have the highest number of cases during last week all have shown decrease in number of cases.

Forty-nine districts have shown an increase in new cases during last week (2-8 Feb.) in comparison to previous week (23 Mar. – 1 Feb.),

In the past week (16-22 March), India has reported 569 deaths, of which the highest were in Kerala (477) followed by Karnataka (17) and Maharashtra (14).

Seven states Punjab, Nagaland, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, and Maharashtra have shown increase in deaths while seventeen states have shown decline in deaths. Higher declines were reported from Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh (-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 is working with Kuaisou Technology to combat COVID-19 misinformation and provide mental health tips on how to cope with effects of the pandemic. Resources are available to reach vulnerable populations in the palms of their hands in languages they understand, details here

UN Environment Programme joins alliance to implement One Health approach- the partnership aims to accelerate coordinated strategy on human, animal and ecosystem health, details here

WHO’s Regional Office for South East Asia (SEARO) is supporting countries to boost laboratory biosafety and biosecurity through regular training, details here

WHO COUNTRY SUPPORT: A SNAPSHOT

Technical guidance is being shared with States including emerging evidence on COVID-19 including variants, its sub-lineages and updated information on recent surge reported in other countries. 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.; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM.

Vaccination sessions across the country is supported by WHO field offices and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning, and monitoring; including roll out of COVID19 vaccination for the age group 12-14 years.

Technical support is being provided to State/ UTs authorities to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization in Daman & Diu and Dadar & Nagar Haveli, Gujarat, and Maharashtra. This support includes development of technical guidelines, training resources, capacity building and monitoring.

Support provided to Daman & Diu and D & N Haveli, Gujarat, and Maharashtra in planning for Intensified Mission Indradhanush 4.0
India has so far conducted over 78.36 Cr (78,36,13,628) cumulative tests; The last 24 hours saw a total of 5,68,471 tests have been conducted. (Source: https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1807957).

As of 23 March 2022, Weekly Positivity Rate in the country currently stands at 0.36% and the Daily Positivity rate is reported to be 0.26%. (Source: https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1808444).

With the administration of more than 28 lakh doses (28,17,612) 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 23 March 2022.

Centre has provided more than 182 crore (1,82,19,08,164) 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 69 lakh (69,99,528) vaccine doses have been administered to 12-14 years age group so far. More than 2.21 Crore (2,21,14,924) Precaution Doses for the identified categories of beneficiaries (HCWs, FLWs and Over 60 years) for COVID vaccination have been administered so far.

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

• FAQ: GISRS sentinel surveillance for COVID-19 (LINK)
• Safety monitoring of molnupiravir for treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 infection in low and middle-income countries using cohort event monitoring: a WHO study (LINK)
• Strengthening COVID-19 vaccine demand and uptake in refugees and migrants (LINK)
• Interim recommendations for use of the COVISHIELD™ (LINK)
• Interim recommendations for use of the Bharat Biotech BBV152 COVAXIN® (LINK)
• MoHFW’s guidelines for COVID-19 vaccination of Children between 12-14 years age (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