HIGHLIGHTS

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 148th 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.

Source: MoHFW Data as of 19 MAY 2020 3:43PM released by PIB Delhi
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.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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