

Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

Situation Update Report – 28

August 10, 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr Harsh Vardhan interacted with WHO Regional Director and Health ministers from South East Asia region to discuss COVID-19 response and resumption of essential health services ([Link](#))
- To strengthen public health facilities infrastructure for COVID-19 response, Union Government released financial package INR 890.32 million to 22 States/UTs ([Link](#))
- Health Secretary, engaged state and district officials from 29 districts reporting high COVID-19 mortality to analyze reasons and advise measures to prevent and reduce mortality ([Link 1](#) and [Link 2](#))
- The Drugs Controller General of India approved Phase II+III trials of Oxford University vaccine (COVISHIELD) in India ([Link](#))
- MoHFW highlighted the role of Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) in ensuring essential immunization services ([Link](#))
- CSIR conducted a webinar on new technologies for various products related to COVID-19 with focus on water purification technologies ([Link](#))

WHO Situation Update 203

India

2 215 074 Confirmed Cases

44 386 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region

2 632 773 Confirmed Cases

53 677 Total Deaths

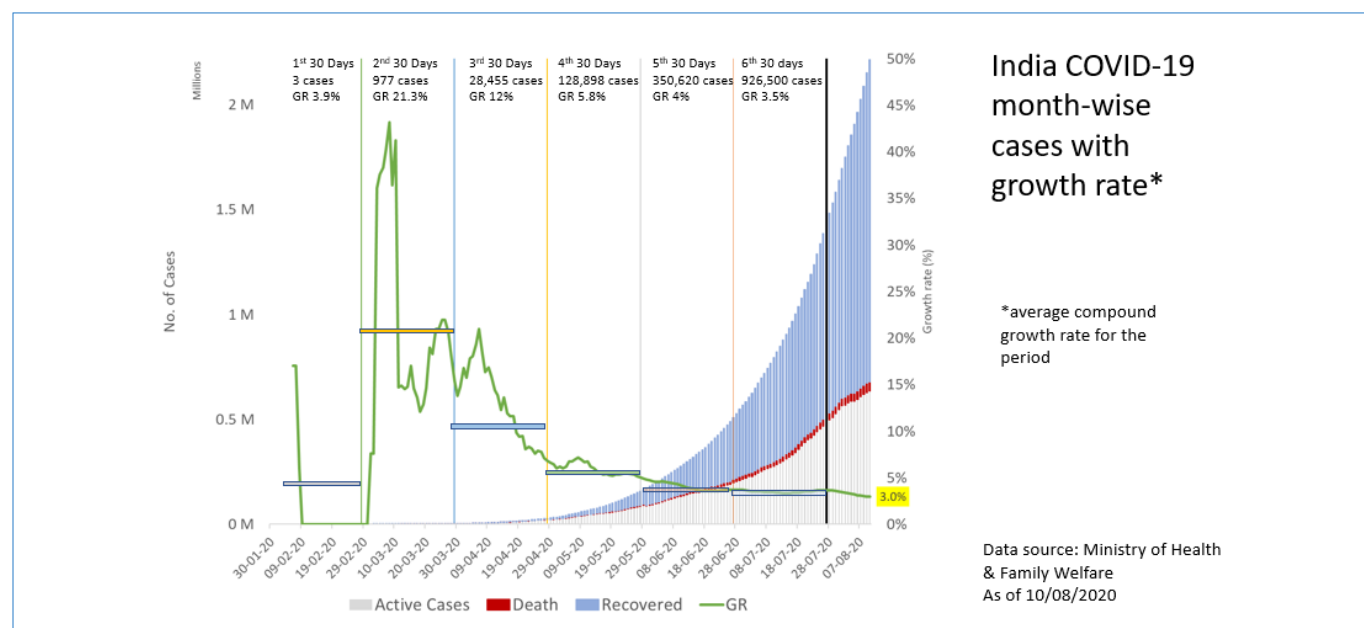
World

19 718 030 Confirmed Cases

728 013 Deaths

INDIA SITUATION

As on 10 August 2020, 08:00 IST there were 2,215,074 and 44,386 Deaths in India. India's COVID-19 recoveries have crossed the historic peak of 1.5 million, highest ever single day recoveries of 54,859 in the last 24 hours, rate amongst the COVID-19 patients has scaled another high of almost 70%, details [here](#).



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WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO **celebrates Breastfeeding Awareness Week** to highlight the importance of breastfeeding. WHO recommendations on the initiation and continued breastfeeding of infants and young children also apply to mothers with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, details [here](#).
- **Environmental surveillance** by testing of waste water for evidence of pathogens has a long history of use in public health. WHO has published a scientific brief on how this form of surveillance is being used in the context of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic details [here](#).

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

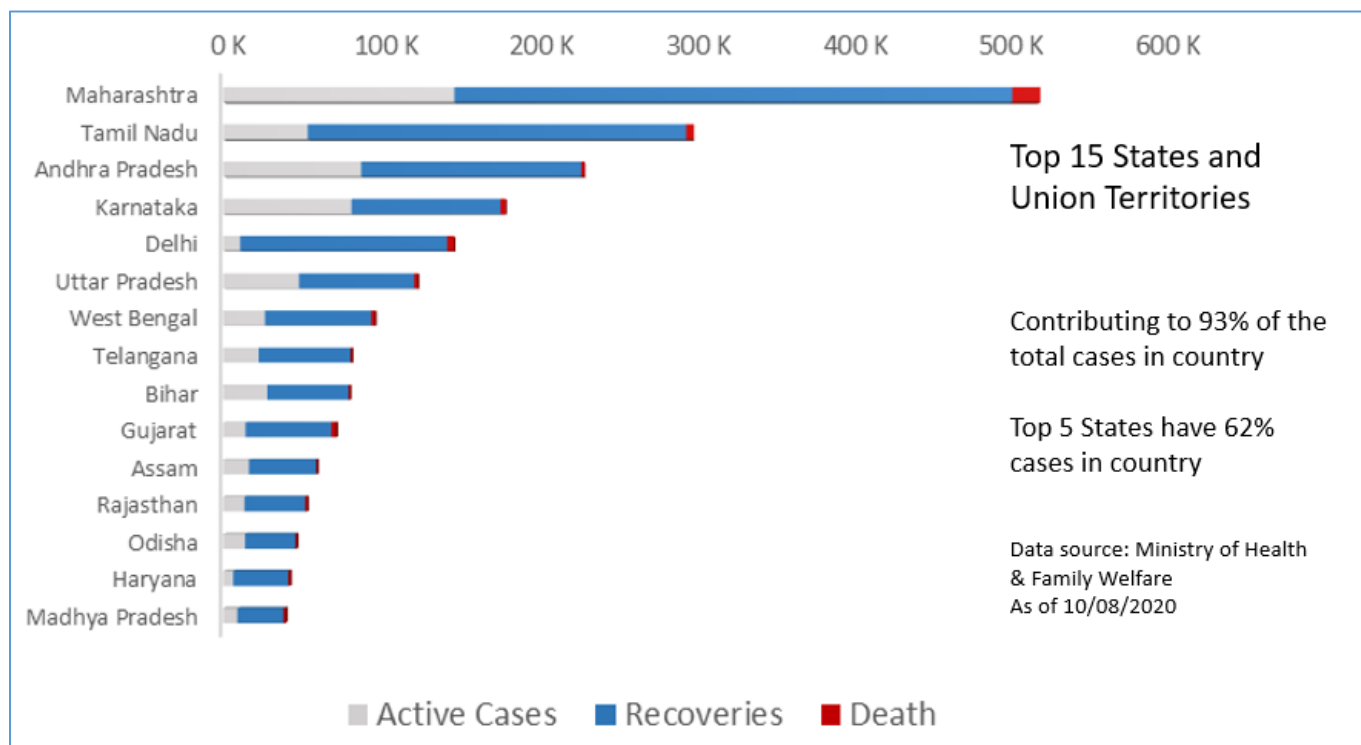
- **Co-ordination:** WCO continues to provide technical advice to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) and support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC.
- **State Updates:** Across states, WCO continues to provide technical support to state and districts to train frontline workers (ASHAs/ANMs) on IPC, contact tracing, screening of high-risk population, ILI/SARI surveillance and addressing mental health issues. Key updates include:
 - **West Bengal** to start census in Kolkata, Salt Lake, New town and Howrah to identify and reach out to elderly people staying alone for pre-emptive COVID-19 response. Kolkata Municipal Corporation is utilizing its community halls in 16 Boroughs as rapid antigen testing centres and RT– PCR sample collection centers
 - **Andhra Pradesh** has started sero-surveys in four districts - Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad installed ceiling mounted mass fever screening system to detect and track febrile persons
 - **Tamil Nadu** approved rupees 2.5 million ex-gratia to families of 28 frontline workers who died due to COVID-19
- **Infection Prevention and Control (IPC):** Field teams across all states continue to advocate to resume essential health services especially routine immunization, VPD surveillance, polio eradication, measles rubella elimination, TB detection and treatment, Hypertension Control Initiative and NCD activities.
- **Research:** WCO together with 4 WHO Collaborating Centers in India are working in 20 high-delivery load facilities across the country for standardizing COVID-19 and Pregnancy (also called **SCOPE initiative**) for improving data collection methods and protocol and improving the quality of evidence on clinical characteristics and outcomes for COVID-19 and pregnancy in India
- **Information and planning:** On request of Health Department, WCO officials developed a presentation which details the COVID situation which was presented in the cabinet meeting (01 August 2019)
- **Laboratory testing:** WCO has shared a draft strategy to prioritize districts based on positivity rate (rapid antigen testing) and technical inputs to enhance testing in priority districts. India's testing capacity is continually growing, currently it is testing more than 700,000 samples in a day and a test rate of 17,926 tests per million population and test positivity rate (cumulative) of 9.0%, details [here](#).

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TOP 15 STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES



ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO published **two new documents on the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access Facility** - one outlines global procurement for COVID-19 vaccines and the other focuses on insuring accelerated vaccine development and manufacturing ([Link](#))
2. WHO has published a **scientific brief on estimating mortality from COVID-19**, the brief discusses the limitations and difficulties in interpreting the case fatality ratio of COVID-19, and potential biases that could arise in ascertaining mortality ([Link](#))
3. MoHFW **Guidelines for international arrivals** (in supersession of guidelines issued on the subject dated 24th May 2020) (to be operational from 00.01 Hrs, 8th August 2020) ([Link](#))
4. MoHFW COVID-19 Pandemic and **Tobacco Use** in India ([Link](#))

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

In case of any queries on COVID-19, call +91-11-23978046 or 1075 (Toll-free). State Helpline [here](#).
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