HIGHLIGHTS

- Dr Harsh Vardhan, launched decade of healthy ageing on International Day for Older Persons and shared efforts by the Government to address concerns of older persons during COVID-19 (Link)
- Ministry of Home Affairs issued new guidelines for re-opening during Unlock 5.0 (Link)
- Minister of Health launched CSIR Technologies for rural development, a post COVID fast track action plan to create livelihood opportunities in rural areas (Link)
- Vice President condemns the instances of stigma and discrimination against frontline warriors and COVID-19 patients (Link)
- Minister of Health and Family Welfare shared information about India’s COVID-19 vaccination rollout strategy (Link)
- Sports Authority of India (SAI) has issued SOP for "Graduated Return to Play" for athletes who test positive for COVID-19 (Link)
- MoHFW unveiled a COVID-19 vaccine web portal and national clinical registry portal for COVID-19 to be hosted by ICMR (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 05 October 2020, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI has confirmed 6,623,815 COVID-19 cases, and 102,685 deaths. India’s total recovered cases have crossed 5.5 million. The COVID burden varies across states when assessed in accordance to the population size (graph below), details here.

WHO Situation Update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Confirmed Cases</th>
<th>Total Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>6 623 815</td>
<td>102 685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Asia Region</td>
<td>7 418 537</td>
<td>120 237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>35 109 317</td>
<td>1 035 341</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cases per million across states

Source: COVID-19 INDIA as on: 05 October 2020, 08:00 IST (GMT+5:30); Population Projection Census 2011 for 2018 used for per million
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO released results of disrupted or halted critical mental health services survey of 130 countries showing the devastating impact of COVID-19 on access to mental health services, details here.
- World leaders, celebrities to join WHO’s Big Event for Mental Health on 10 October—which is free and open to the public, will be broadcast on 10 October from 16:00-19:00 CEST on WHO’s Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and TikTok channels and website, details here.
- New commitments from governments, international organizations and the private sector support unified approach to end pandemic, backing a response of unprecedented scale, scope and speed—through the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator, 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.

- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana
  - WCO personnel continue to be deployed to support SHOC room at the EMR Division and NCDC
  - WCO continues to support Chief Secretary, to analyze COVID-19 situation in Delhi, on request of Officer on Special Duty, WCO shared list of worst affected districts in the country

- **Surveillance, Contact Tracing, Containment:** WCO continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Chandigarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh
  - WCO is assisting Rajasthan to build capacity on COVID management protocols, providing supervisory support for strengthening surveillance, and developing training module for field survey teams.

- **Infection Prevention and Control and case management:** WCO held capacity building workshops on IPC for 65 Medical officers in Alwar, Rajasthan
  - Supported Andhra Pradesh for orientation of newly recruited medical officers
  - Organised training for PHC/ UPHC staff in 29 districts of Telangana. The opportunity was also used to discuss the gaps related to surveillance sensitivity and reorienting the health workforce on the basics of AFP, MR and DPT surveillance.

- **Essential Services:** Health Minister, Karnataka approved the launch of India Hypertension Control Initiative (IHCI) in the state; and West Bengal has launched also IHCI in the state.
  - Routine immunization services are resuming with WHO supported workshops for strengthening VPD surveillance and immunization being conducted in Karnataka and Kerala
  - WCO is supporting Tamil Nadu in strengthening Measles and Rubella surveillance through orientation of front-line workers

- **Laboratory testing:** Overall, India has tested 7,99,82,394 cumulative total samples up to October 04, 2020 with 9,89,860 samples tested on 04.10.20, reported by ICMR. WCO continues to support ICMR for supplies and kits as needed.
SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Source: Lancet Vulnerability Index published July 2020

Source: MoHFW as of 5th October 2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO Emergency Global Supply Chain System (COVID-19) catalogue (Link)
2. WHO Diagnostic testing for SARS-CoV-2: Interim guidance (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