

# Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Situation Update Report – 42

November 16, 2020

## HIGHLIGHTS

- PM calls for observing restraint during the festival season considering the pandemic ([Link](#))
- MoHFW has a plan to ensure that vaccines will be available to all priority population groups, irrespective of the region ([Link](#))
- Secretary, DST shared that lessons learned during COVID-19 are being incorporated in the upcoming Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2020 ([Link](#))
- Union Minister of Culture visits national museum to review preparations regarding re-opening of museums, art galleries and exhibitions from 10 November ([Link](#))
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare reviewed COVID and public health measures with health ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Punjab, Telangana, Rajasthan, and West Bengal ([Link](#))
- Union Minister for Minority Affairs issued Haj 2021 guidelines in light of the COVID-19 pandemic ([Link](#))

### WHO Situation Update 16.11

#### India

**8 845 127 Confirmed Cases**  
**130 070 Total Deaths**

#### South East Asia Region

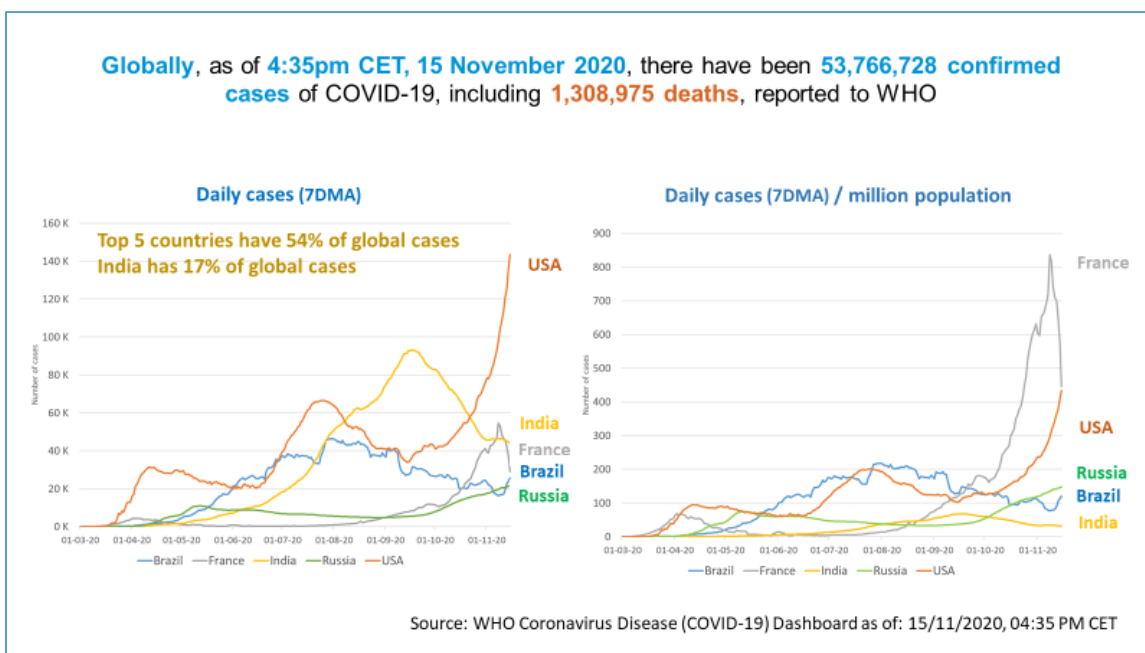
**10 057 114 Confirmed Cases**  
**154 434 Total Deaths**

#### World

**54 301 156 Confirmed Cases**  
**1 316 994 Deaths**

## INDIA SITUATION

As of 17 November 2020, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI has reported 453,401 active cases 829,037 discharge and 130,519 deaths, details [here](#).



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## WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

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- United States (Pfizer Incorporated and Moderna Incorporated) has announced that their vaccine candidates were now over 90% effective against the covid-19, details [here](#).
- The European Commission, France, Spain, The Republic of Korea and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation pledge US\$360 million to COVAX, the Vaccines Pillar of the ACT Accelerator, details [here](#).
- WHO established Council on the Economics of Health for All. The Council, comprising top economists and health experts, will focus on investments in health, and achieving sustainable, inclusive and innovation-led economic growth, details [here](#).

## WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

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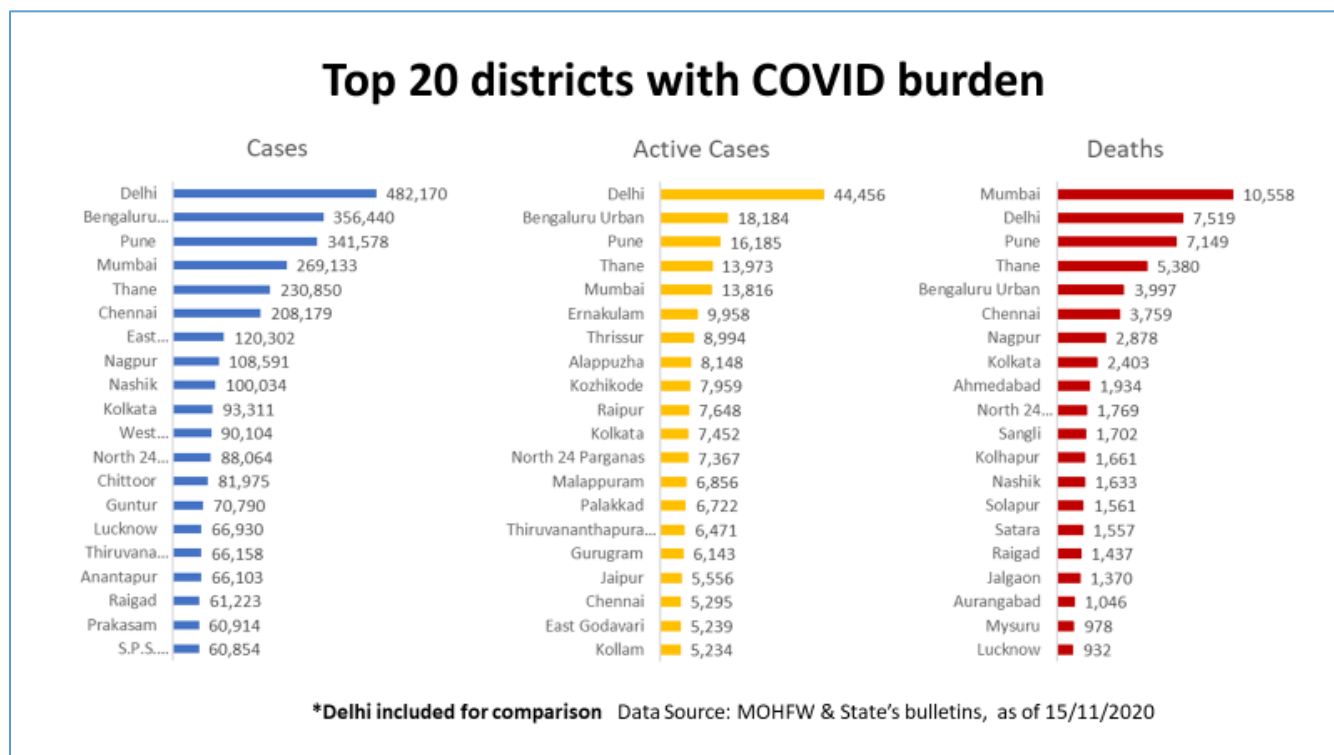
WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, on preparedness and response measures including epidemiological assessment, surveillance, testing, case management, containment and research activities for COVID-19 at the national, state and district level.

- **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, and Puducherry**
- **Surveillance, Contact Tracing, Containment:** Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in **Karnataka, Puducherry, and Telangana**
  - In **Uttar Pradesh**, to identify ILI/SARI symptoms, a total of 2,88,15,423 houses have been covered and 106,033 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams
- **Risk Communication and Community Engagement:** WHO launched a series of information videos for COVID Appropriate behaviours particularly during the festive season. The aim is to promote key preventive behaviors for COVID-19 with a special focus on 3Ws: **W**ash your hands, **W**ear your mask, **W**atch your distance. We hope this will keep the festivals joyful for everyone, details available [here](#).
- **Infection Prevention and Control and Hospital Preparedness:** In **Karnataka** WCO officers are members of District Expert committee and continue to support in assessing hospital preparedness and adherence to SOPs
  - Reorientation training completed for PHC/ UPHC staff in all 33 districts in **Telangana** and continues to support assessment of PHCs and COVID hospitals
- **Research and Development:** Supporting field work related to primary immunodeficiency disorder (PID) study in **Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu**
  - WCO is supporting 20 high-burden facilities on standardizing COVID and pregnancy care
- **Information and Planning:** WCO is supporting **Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, and Puducherry** in preparation of database for health care workers for COVID-19 vaccine
  - WCO continues to provide technical inputs for case fatality ratio analysis and death audit in **Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Puducherry, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu**
  - Supporting serosurvey activities in **Bihar and Karnataka**
- **Laboratory testing:** India tested 12,56,98,525 cumulative samples by 12 October and 8,61,706 samples were tested on 15 November, reported by [ICMR](#).

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## SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA



## ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. WHO-convened Global Study of the Origins of SARS-CoV-2: [\[LINK\]](#)
2. WHO Policy brief: Readiness for influenza during the COVID-19 pandemic [\[LINK\]](#)
3. WHO guidance for Pharmacists in Community Pharmacies during the COVID-19 [\[LINK\]](#)
4. MoHFW Guidelines for International Arrivals (in supersession of guidelines issued on the subject dated 2nd August 2020) [\[LINK\]](#)
5. MoHFW Guidelines on Managing Mental Illness in Hospital Settings during COVID-19 [\[LINK\]](#)

## 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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