

Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

Situation Update Report – 43

November 23, 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

- Centre advises States/UTs to increase testing levels to track the undetected and missed out patients ([Link](#))
- MoHFW approves new category of 'Wards of COVID Warriors' under central pool of MBBS/BDS seats, for selection and nomination of candidates in the academic year 2020-21 ([Link](#))
- Union Minister for Health showcased steps taken by India to protect gains in HIV prevention during COVID-19 pandemic at the Global Prevention Coalition (GPC) for HIV Prevention ([Link](#))
- Low Mortality Rate does not mean we can risk the lives of others, cautioned NITI Aayog, while urging people to get tested in case of symptoms ([Link](#))
- Minister of Health called for engendering in the health workforce, a desire to make a real difference in the post-COVID world ([Link](#))
- Dr Harsh Vardhan chaired 147th session of WHO Executive Board and highlighted global partnerships and investment in global public health for strengthening health systems ([Link](#))

WHO Situation Update

India

9 139 865 Confirmed Cases

133 738 Total Deaths

South East Asia Region

10 367 553 Confirmed Cases

158 566 Total Deaths

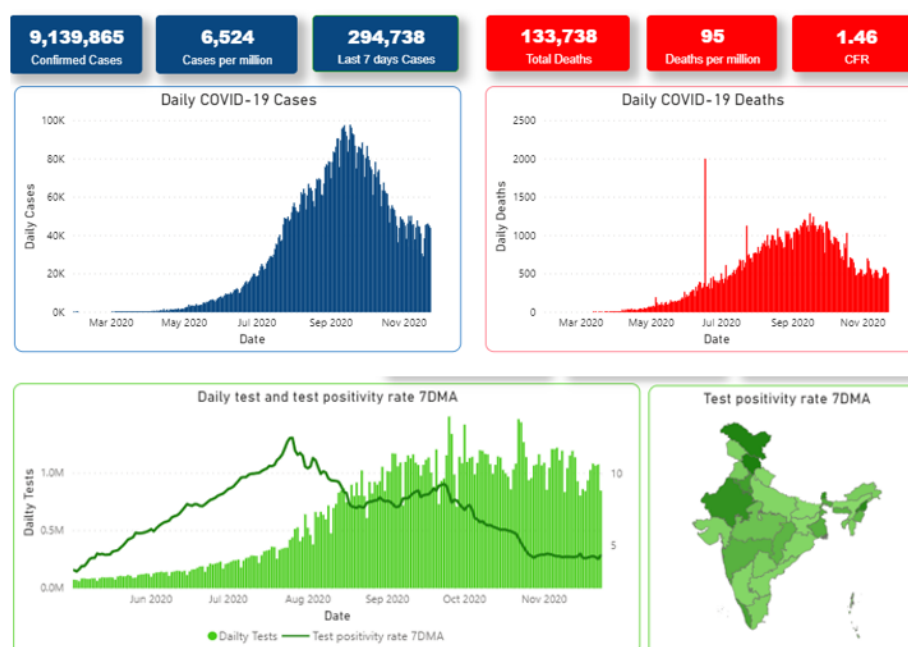
World

57 882 183 Confirmed Cases

1 377 395 Deaths

INDIA SITUATION

As on 23 November, India reported **9,139,865 confirmed cases**. Cases per million is **6,524**. Total deaths reported **133,738**, test positivity (7DMA) is **4.28** with **4,912** testes per million per week, details [here](#).



Source: MoHFW as reported on the WHO India Country Office Dashboard

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WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO and other UN agencies issued a Joint Statement on Data Protection and Privacy in the COVID-19 Response, calling for the use of data and technology in the COVID-19 response in a way that respects the right to privacy under international law, details [here](#).
- In his opening remarks at the Member States briefing on COVID-19, WHO Director-General Dr Tedros thanked Member States for their continued solidarity in the response to COVID-19 and for the successful 73rd session of the World Health Assembly conducted virtually, 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.

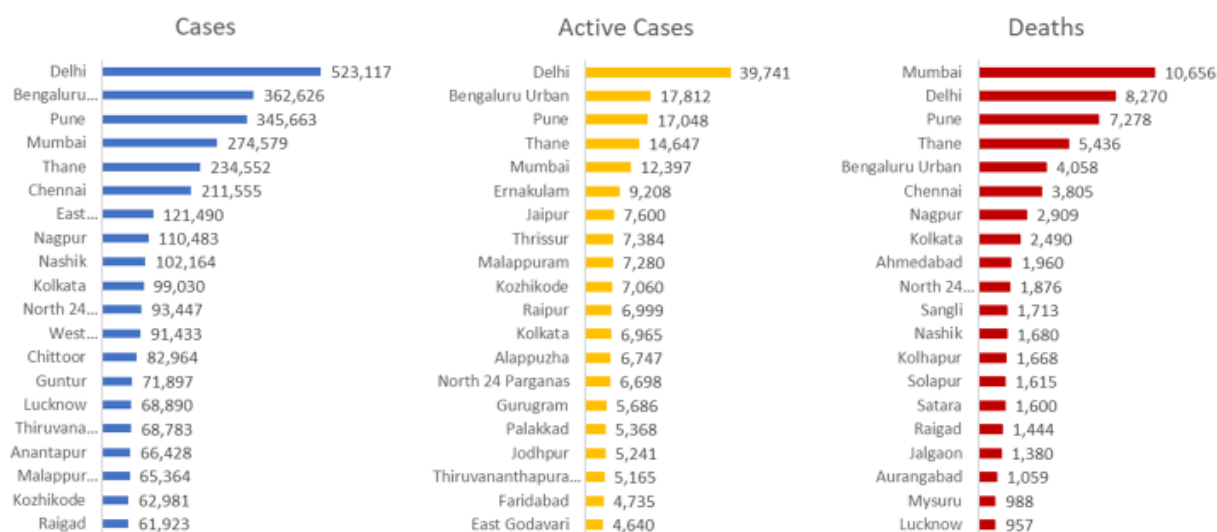
- **Coordination:** WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW through JMG (Joint Monitoring Group) at the national level and through task force/control rooms at the state and district level.
- **Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance:** Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities and continues to provide supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis
 - In **Uttar Pradesh**, to identify ILI/SARI symptoms, a total of 2,91,71,612 houses have been covered and 111,230 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams
- **Infection Prevention and Control:** WHO is advocating for increasing number of ICU beds in high burden districts in **Uttar Pradesh**
 - In **Karnataka** WCO officers are members of District Expert committee and continue to support in assessing hospital preparedness and adherence to SOPs
 - Reorientation training was completed for PHC/ UPHC staff in all 33 districts in **Telangana** and continues to support assessment of PHCs and COVID hospitals
- **Essential Services:** Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in **Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Puducherry, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra**
- **Vaccine preparation:** WCO is providing strategic technical support in **Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Madhya Pradesh** for preparing for COVID-19 vaccination
- **Research and Development:** WCO is supporting field work related to primary immunodeficiency disorder (PID) study in **Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu**
 - WHO CCs training and consultation was done for data collection and analysis plan for the WHO SCOPE study on standardising COVID outcomes reporting during pregnancy.
- **Laboratory testing:** India tested 132,582,730 were tested on 23 November, reported by [ICMR](#).
 - WCO continues to review testing strategy, number of samples tested and test positivity rate in states and share feedback on strengthening testing strategy.

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SUB-NATIONAL BURDEN OF COVID-19 ACROSS INDIA

Top 20 districts with COVID burden



*Delhi included for comparison Data Source: MOHFW & State's bulletins, as of 22/11/2020

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW Instructions to all major and minor ports for dealing with COVID-19 pandemic ([Link](#))
2. WHO Guidance on developing a national deployment and vaccination plan for COVID-19 vaccines ([Link](#))
3. WHO Maintaining surveillance of influenza and monitoring SARS-CoV-2 – adapting Global Influenza surveillance and Response System (GISRS) and sentinel systems during the COVID-19 pandemic ([Link](#))
4. WHO Diagnostics, therapeutics, vaccine readiness, and other health products for COVID-19 ([Link](#))
5. NITI Aayog released 'Mitigation and Management of COVID-19: Practices from India's States & UTs' ([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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