HIGHLIGHTS

- More than 1.6 million healthcare workers have been vaccinated across the country since the launch of COVID-19 vaccination drive (Link)
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare unveils IEC campaign to address vaccine hesitancy and misinformation (Link)
- PM interacts with beneficiaries and vaccinators of COVID-19 vaccination drive in Varanasi (Link)
- COVID-19 vaccination drive commences in Andaman & Nicobar Command (Link)
- Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare rushes multi-disciplinary team to assist Lakshadweep administration in COVID-19 management (Link)
- Union Minister of Home Affairs honored Corona warriors of Delhi Police and presented ranks to policemen who were promoted out of turn in recognition of their outstanding work (Link)
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare asserts that 2020 was the Year of Science and Scientists in reference to ICMR's performance on containing COVID-19 (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 25 January 2021, India reported 10,667,736 confirmed cases. Daily cases in India continue to decline with 13,203 confirmed cases reported on 25 January 2021. In the past 7 days, India reported 95,963 confirmed cases. Cases per million is 7,614 and a total of 153,470 deaths have been reported, details here.

10,667,736
Confirmed Cases
7,614
Cases per million
95,963
Last 7 days Cases
153,470
Total Deaths
110
Deaths per million
1.44
CFR

Source: MoHFW data
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- Statement to the 148th Executive Board by the Chair of the Review Committee on the Functioning of the International Health Regulations (2005) during the COVID-19 Response, details here.
- COVAX announced the signing of an advance purchase agreement for up to 40 million doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine; rollout to commence with successful execution of supply agreements. Additionally, COVAX announced that, pending WHO emergency use listings, nearly 150 million doses of the AstraZeneca/Oxford candidate are anticipated to be available in Q1 2021, via existing agreements with the Serum Institute of India (SII) and AstraZeneca, details here.

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

WHO Country Office for India (WCO) continues to work closely with MoHFW, in responding to COVID-19 and roll out of Covid19 vaccination 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 Gujarat, Chief Minister released the first state-level Intra-Action Review (IAR) report on COVID-19 response in India as per WHO guidelines.
- **COVID19 vaccination:** WCO is tracking trainings and formation of States and district task forces through a dashboard and providing daily update to MOHFW on progress of vaccination.
  - High level oversight during vaccination is being provided by WHO teams levels
  - WCO continues to support training of vaccinators and other vaccination team members
  - WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.
  - 29 field staff from WCO India have been deployed to North Eastern states to support COVID-19 vaccination preparedness and in rolling out the vaccination
  - WCO in partnership with UNICEF in Tamil Nadu is planning physical assessment of cold chain points across the state
- **Risk communication and Community Engagement:** WCO engaged celebrities to amplify 3Ws (wear your mask, wash your hands and watch your distance) video on social media.
- **Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance:** Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in all States/UTs
  - WCO 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 31,358,752 houses have been covered and 152,057 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams
- **Research activities:** WCO is monitoring progress of 11 WHO Unity studies being conducted across India- study to understand risk of COVID-19 transmission among health care workers and household contacts
- **Laboratory testing:** To date, India has tested more than 192,000,000 samples. Tests includes both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 1.84%. A total of 570,246 tests were done on 25 January 2021, details at ICMR.
COVID-19 VACCINATION DOSES ADMINISTERED

![Graph showing COVID-19 vaccination doses administered worldwide.](source: Official data collated by Our World In Data – Last updated 26 January, 08:10 (London time)]

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK

1. MoHFW Letter regarding Contraindications and Factsheet for COVID-19 vaccines ([LINK](#))
2. WHO manual for organizing a national external quality assessment programme for health laboratories and other testing sites ([LINK](#))
3. WHO mRNA-1273 vaccine (Moderna) against COVID-19 Background document ([LINK](#))
5. WHO Guidance for Communities of Faith to help them discern how best to practice their beliefs while keeping their staff and congregations safe ([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 I Telephone number: [+91-11- 66564800](#) I Email: [wrindia@who.int](mailto:wrindia@who.int)