HIGHLIGHTS

- 187 cases of UK variant, 4 of South Africa variant and one Brazil variant of SARS-CoV-2 detected in the country (Link)
- Multimedia exhibition van travelling to create awareness on vaccination for COVID-19 and Aatmanirbhar Bharat flagged off in Mumbai (Link)
- Prime Minister addresses a workshop on “COVID-19 Management: Experience, Good Practices and Way Forward” with leaders, experts, and officials of ten neighboring countries (Link)
- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare appeals to the medical community and frontline workers to come forward and take the COVID-19 vaccine (Link)
- Chhattisgarh Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Punjab witness a surge in daily COVID-19 cases (Link)
- Centre writes to states witnessing surge and recommends an increase in proportion of RT-PCR tests, and employment of strict and comprehensive surveillance measures (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

As of 22nd February 2021, India reported 11,016,434 confirmed cases. There was slight increase in daily cases in past week. However, 10,584 confirmed cases reported on 22nd February 2021. Cases per million is 7,863 and a total of 156,463 deaths have been reported 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>11,016,434</td>
<td>156,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East Asia Region</td>
<td>13,367,630</td>
<td>205,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>111,076,123</td>
<td>2,463,114</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: WCO COVID-19 Dashboard reported using MoHFW data as on 15 February 2021, 08:00 IST (GMT+5:30)
WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- WHO and Chubb Limited signed an agreement on behalf of the COVAX Facility for the administration of the first and only global vaccine injury compensation mechanism, a no-fault compensation program for the 92 low- and middle-income countries and economies eligible for support via the Gavi COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC) of the COVAX Facility, details here.
- Following the first global infodemiology conference held in July 2020, WHO and partners coordinated a joint call for papers with 5 academic journals representing different scientific fields, all related to components of the science behind managing infodemics. 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.
  - WCO personnel continue to be deployed with MoHFW to support SHOC room at NCDC
- **COVID-19 vaccination:** Total of 1,14,24,094 vaccine doses have been given through 2,44,071 sessions, as per the provisional report by MoHFW.
  - WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.
  - WCO is tracking trainings and formation review meetings of States and district task forces and providing daily update to MOHFW on progress of vaccination.
  - High level oversight is being provided for vaccination sessions by WHO teams at district and state levels
  - WCO is supporting counselling sessions targeting vaccine hesitancy amongst healthcare workers
- **Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance:** WCO continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 surveillance and containment activities.
  - WCO provides 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 31,471,162 houses have been covered and 157,881 symptomatic identified with the support of WHO field teams
  - WCO is supporting Maharashtra with response to recent surge in COVID-19 cases
- **Essential Services:** WCO supported MoHFW in participating in the two-day Regional Web-consultation on experience sharing across Five Countries in the South-East Asia Region for continuation of essential RMNCAH services during and beyond the pandemic.
  - WCO support to strengthen VPD surveillance and routine immunization continue across the country
  - WCO supported Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Karnataka, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance
- **Laboratory testing:** To date, India has tested more than 212,000,000 samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. Most of the large states are ramping RTPCR tests. India's current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 1.86%. A total of 678,685 tests reported on 22nd February 2021, details at ICMR.
COVID-19 VACCINATION ACROSS STATES

**64,25,060** HCWs have taken the 1st dose and **11,15,542** HCWs 2nd dose, along with **38,83,492** FLWs (1st dose)

Source: Update on COVID-19 Vaccination- Day 38 22 FEB 2021 8:31PM by PIB Delhi

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**ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES THIS WEEK**

1. MoHFW Algorithm: Standard Operating Procedure for International Arrivals ([LINK](#))
2. WHO launches first ‘SMART Guidelines’ ([LINK](#))
3. WHO Priority medical devices list for the COVID-19 response and associated technical specifications ([LINK](#))
4. COVID-19 vaccine introduction and deployment costing tool (CVIC tool) ([LINK](#))
5. Anti-interleukin-6 therapies for hospitalized patients with COVID-19: a protocol for a prospective meta-analysis of randomized trials ([LINK](#))
6. Maintaining a safe and adequate blood supply and collecting convalescent plasma in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic ([LINK](#))
7. Operational considerations to expedite genomic sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 GISRS surveillance ([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