HIGHLIGHTS

- PM interacts with representatives of religious and social organizations on COVID-19 (Link)
- Government taking steps to undertake the production of COVID BEEP, India’s first indigenous wireless physiological parameters monitoring system for COVID-19 patients; on a large scale (Link)
- Centre advises States to conduct State-specific sero surveys in consultation with ICMR to generate district-level data on sero-prevalence (Link)
- MoHFW launched guidelines for “Buffer Stock Management of COVID 19” to States/UTS, requesting them to initiate necessary procurement process to ensure continuous availability of drugs for any future surge in cases (Link)
- COVID vaccination dramatically reduces infection, finds Armed Forces Medical Study (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- In India, highest number of cases in a day were 4,14,188; reported on 7th May 2021. Since then there has been a rapid decline in daily cases however daily cases are plateauing around 30-40,000 for the last several weeks. Cases per million is 22,126.

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

- In the past week (22-27 July), as compared to previous week (15-21 July), all states/UTs have shown a decrease in cases except Madhya Pradesh, D&N Haveli, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Manipur, Kerala, Uttarakhand and Arunachal Pradesh.
In Delhi, random testing has been initiated at bus stands, railway station & market places
In Jammu and Kashmir, weekend curfew has been lifted from all districts; night curfew will continue
In Punjab, schools for classes 10, 11, and 12 have been reopened, however, the physical presence of the students is reliant on consent of the parents and the option of virtual classes has been continued

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

WHO, UNDP and the University of Oxford database highlights that COVID-19 vaccine inequity will have a lasting and profound impact on socio-economic recovery in low- and lower-middle income countries without urgent action to boost supply and assure equitable access for every country, details here
WHO Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety (GACVS) COVID-19 subcommittee gave statement that increased reports of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) have not been observed following mRNA COVID-19 vaccines, details here
To help raise awareness on the benefits of physical activity and encourage communities to keep moving during the pandemic, the WHO, Angry Birds Friends and Rovio Entertainment launched an in-game, week-long tournament called Stay Active, details here
WHO is collaborating with Pravda Association, a non-profit fact-checking organization in Poland, to raise awareness about the harms of misinformation, especially among those most vulnerable, details here

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination
- WCO is monitoring the situation and trends using inhouse developed warning tool based on various indicators and epidemiological thresholds; findings are being periodically shared with States/UTs
- WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA 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
- WHO field staff participated in meetings on current response, third wave preparations, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM, etc in Kerala, Lakshadweep, Tamil Nadu, Manipur, Meghalaya, Odisha

COVID-19 vaccination
- High level oversight during vaccination is provided by WHO teams at district and state levels
- WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring
- WCO is supporting Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and Punjab in orientating them to guidelines on COVID-19 vaccination for pregnant women; and its roll-out

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance
- Providing technical support in house to house survey for ILI/SARI in Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland, and Punjab

Information and Planning
- Facilitated training of Medical Officers of Nellore district in Andhra Pradesh regarding Routine Immunization
- Supporting orientation of Medical Officers in Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka on COVID-19 preparedness and management in paediatric population
- Assisting Manipur with COVID-19 death audit and analysis

IPC
- Continuing to support capacity building of healthcare workers regarding IPC in Delhi and Mizoram
Essential Services
- Supporting VPD surveillance and immunization services in Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana
- Supporting Haryana, Karnataka, Puducherry, and Telangana in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance
- Supporting launch of PCV vaccine in Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana

As of 27 July, India has tested more than 448 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2.4%.

Testing - National Level

India continued to drive COVID-19 vaccinations among various age group with preconditions, details here.

Cumulative Coverage Report of COVID-19 vaccination (as on 27 July 2021, 07:00 AM)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>India</th>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
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<td>34,65,16,149</td>
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<td>46,24,576 in last 24 Hours</td>
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IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS THIS WEEK

- Guidance on conducting vaccine effectiveness evaluations in the setting of new SARS-CoV-2 variants: Interim guidance- addendum to Evaluation of COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness [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