HIGHLIGHTS

- Indian Immunologicals receive manufacturing license under Department of Biotechnology and Mission Covid Suraksha Project for augmentation of manufacturing capacity of COVAXIN (Link)
- Centre releases another instalment of 35% of Emergency Response & Health System Preparedness (ECRP) – II package to all States (Link)
- Chief Scientist (WHO) calls on Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology and discusses various aspects of COVID pandemic (Link)
- Union Minister of Health reviews COVID-19 response in Kerala (Link)
- National Institute of Animal Biotechnology, Hyderabad has been approved for batch-testing and release of COVID-19 vaccines (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- In the past 24 hours, 25,166 confirmed cases have been reported, which is the lowest number of cases reported in single day after second wave. In India, highest number of cases in a day were 4,14,188; reported on 7th May 2021. The last 7 DMA for cases per million is 22,696.

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

- In the past week (11-17 August), as compared to previous week (4-10 August), seven states have shown an increase in cases while twenty-seven states have shown a decline in cases. Higher decline has been reported from A&N Islands (-57%), Uttar Pradesh (-41%), Arunachal Pradesh (-37%) and Madhya Pradesh (-32%); whereas Chandigarh (+96%), D&N Haveli (+33%), Punjab (+30%), Himachal Pradesh (+22%) & Jharkhand (+17%) have registered highest increase.
• In Odisha, Government has asserted that hospitals do not require an RT-PCR report to admit a sick patient
• In Punjab, teachers and non-teaching staff have been asked to be prioritized for vaccination, with special camps to ensure that the entire cadre receives the first dose within the month of August
• In Himachal Pradesh, COVID vaccine Certificate (both doses) or a negative COVID-19 test report is mandated for those traveling from other States

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

• WHO is working with researchers to address the urgent need to streamline data collection and reporting on Post COVID-19 condition, also known as ‘long COVID’. The project, Post-COVID Condition Core Outcomes, will survey these patients to establish what core patient outcomes need to be measured to understand the condition, details here
• WHO has been working with Member States and the scientific community to better understand how this pandemic began to better prepare for the next one. WHO calls for all governments to depoliticize the situation and cooperate to accelerate the origin studies, and importantly to work together to develop a common framework for future emerging pathogens of pandemic potential, details here
• ACT-Accelerator launches urgent US$ 7.7 billion appeal to stem surge of dangerous variants. The efforts would contribute to increased testing and better surveillance to detect and protect against new variants; more oxygen to treat the seriously ill and save lives; vital personal protective equipment (PPE) to protect health workers; the rolling out of emergency response and delivery support for the effective delivery and deployment of COVID-19 tools, including in humanitarian contexts; and continued research and development (R&D), details here

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination
• WCO is monitoring the early warning trends using predefined indicators and thresholds and the observations are being shared with States/UTs.
• WCO continues to provide technical support to MoHFW, NCDC, ICMR and NDMA at the national level and through the task force/control rooms at the state and district level in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Puduchery.
• 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 Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand

COVID-19 vaccination
• WCO is supporting monitoring of vaccination sessions across the country and continues to provide surge support for training, microplanning and monitoring.
• Support to special campaign on COVID vaccination in Uttar Pradesh for street vendors & daily wages earners.

Contact Tracing, Containment and Surveillance
• Country office continues to provide technical support for COVID-19 containment activities in Uttar Pradesh; further providing technical support supervision of contact tracing; identify containment zones and sharing regular feedback with government health officials on regular basis.

Information and Planning
• WHO State offices supporting trainings on paediatric case management of COVID 19 in Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Odisha, and Uttar Pradesh
• Assisting Gujarat in training of Reproductive and Child Health Officers regarding COVID-19 response
Support to Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviour study on COVID-19 vaccination in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh.

**Essential Services**
- Efforts to strengthen VPD surveillance and immunization are underway in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu
- Supporting in strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance for Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana, Puducherry, and Maharashtra
- Supporting fever and rash surveillance for Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana with

As of 17 August, India has tested more than 484 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 2%.

**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 18 August 2021, 07:00 AM)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
<th>1st Dose</th>
<th>2nd Dose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Doses</td>
<td>43,57,20,056</td>
<td>12,49,31,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in last 24 Hours</td>
<td>41,79,215</td>
<td>13,25,860</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS THIS WEEK**

- Genomic Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 In India Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) (Updated guidelines and SOPs)- The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India [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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