HIGHLIGHTS

- Prime Minister inaugurates 9 Medical Colleges in Uttar Pradesh (Link)
- Centre rushes multi-disciplinary team to Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh to investigate a case of Zika Virus Disease. (Link)
- Union Minister for Minority Affairs asserts that selection process of Haj pilgrims will be done in accordance with guidelines and criteria decided by Indian and Saudi Arabia Governments and keeping in view COVID-19 protocols (Link)
- India achieves the major milestone of ‘one billion’ vaccinations (Link)

INDIA SITUATION

- As of 26 October 2021, India reported a total of 3,42,02,202 confirmed cases. In the past 24 hours, 12,428 confirmed cases have been reported, this is lowest cases on a single day after the second wave. Top five states, namely, Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh contribute 56% of total cases.

COVID-19: STATUS ACROSS STATES

- In the last week (20-27 October), as compared to previous week (13-19 October), 18 States/UTs have recorded rise in number new cases while 12 States/UTs have reported increase in number of deaths.

- The ‘State AEFI Technical Collaboration Centre’ in Delhi, was inaugurated by the Directorate of Family Welfare, GNCT Delhi and Maulana Azad Medical College in the presence of all stakeholders from National AEFI technical Team and WHO-NPSP Delhi.
- In Uttar Pradesh, CM released a study conducted by IIT Kanpur on effective COVID 19 management module.
Estimation of warning levels (as on 25 Oct. 2021):

- Most of the States and Districts are in warning Level-1; all districts of Mizoram and Kerala are in level-4.
- There are 51 Districts in warning level-4 and 71 Districts in level-3.

WHO GLOBAL UPDATE

- The Steering Committee of the International Year of Health and Care Workers, in coordination with WHO issued a joint statement expressing deep concern about the number of deaths, the overall low rate of vaccinations and the vaccines inequities among health and care workers in low- and middle-income countries, details here
- WHO reiterated that countries must adapt and innovate to mitigate COVID-19 disruptions of services for neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), details here
- WHO, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and WTO launched an update of the extract "Integrated health, trade and IP approach to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic", details here
- WHO, UNESCO and UNDP in collaboration with University of Texas-Austin and the Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas, developed a course curriculum for journalists on pandemic media coverage, details here

WHO COUNTRY UPDATE

Coordination
- WHO 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 officials of various States participated in meetings on the current response, third wave preparations, vaccination; chaired by Chief Ministers, Health Ministers, Chief and/or Health Secretaries, MDs – NHM.
- Supported establishment of State AEFI Technical Collaboration Centre in Department of Community Medicine, Maulana Azad Medical College, Delhi.

COVID-19 vaccination
- Technical 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.

Surveillance, Contact Tracing and Containment
- WHO Country office provided technical support and supportive supervision to monitor contact tracing; identify containment zones for COVID-19 containment activities in Uttar Pradesh and provided feedback to the government health officials.
Support in ensuring delivery of Essential Health Services

- Strengthening and streamlining AEFI surveillance in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana.
- Supporting urban area microplanning for essential immunization in Delhi.

As of 27 October 2021, India has tested more than 586 million samples. Tests include both, RTPCR and Rapid Antigen. India’s current test positivity rate (7DMA) is 1.23%.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beneficiaries vaccinated</th>
<th>1st Dose</th>
<th>2nd Dose</th>
<th>Total Doses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>72,15,57,725</td>
<td>31,37,67,852</td>
<td>1,03,53,25,577</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22,24,840 in last 24 Hours</td>
<td>33,64,284 in last 24 hours</td>
<td>55,89,124 in last 24 Hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES/TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

- Coadministration of seasonal inactivated influenza and COVID-19 vaccines (LINK)
- Annexes to the recommendations for use of the Sinovac-CoronaVac vaccine against COVID-19: Grading of evidence, Evidence to recommendation tables (LINK), recommendations for use of Sinovac (LINK)
- Algorithm for ‘Guidelines for International Arrivals’ (LINK), List of Countries to be referred to in context of ‘Guidelines for international arrivals’ (LINK), Guidelines for International Arrivals (LINK)
- National comprehensive guidelines for management of post COVID sequelae (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