Highest-ever single-day spike in India with 2.17 lakh fresh Covid cases

India added a record 2,17,353 new coronavirus infections in a day taking the total tally of COVID-19 cases to 1,42,91,917, while active cases surpassed the 15-lakh mark, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Friday.

The death toll increased to 1,74,308 with 1,185 new fatalities, the highest since September 19, 2020, the data updated at 8 am showed.

Registering a steady increase for the 37th day in a row, the active cases have increased to 15,69,743, comprising 10.98 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID recovery rate dropped to 87.8 per cent.

The active caseload was at its lowest at 1,35,926 on February 12 and it was at its highest at 10,17,754 on September 18, 2020.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 1,25,47,866, while the case fatality rate has further dropped to 1.22 per cent, the data stated.

According to the ICMR, 26,34,76,625 samples have been tested up to April 15 with 14,73,210 samples being tested on Thursday.
Maharashtra has reported the highest daily new cases at 61,695. It is followed by Uttar Pradesh with 22,339 while Delhi reported 16,699 new cases.

Maharashtra saw the maximum casualties (349), followed by Chhattisgarh with 135 daily deaths, Delhi with 112, Uttar Pradesh 104, Gujarat 81, Karnataka 66, Madhya Pradesh 53, Punjab 50, Rajasthan 33 and Tamil Nadu 29. PTI

**COVID-19 history at greater infection risk**

**Study finds young US Marines without COVID-19 history at greater infection risk (The Tribune: 20210416)**


The study also found that around 10% of the young marines who were COVID-19 survivors got a second infection.

Study finds young US Marines without COVID-19 history at greater infection risk

Photo for representation only. — File photo

A study of more than 3,000 young US Marines found that those without a history of COVID-19 had a five times greater risk of infection than those previously infected, according to findings published in the Lancet Respiratory Medicine journal.

The study also found that around 10% of the young marines who were COVID-19 survivors got a second infection.


"Among 189 seropositive participants, 19 (10%) had at least one positive PCR test for SARS-CoV-2 during the 6-week follow-up (1.1 cases per person-year)", the study found.

The previously infected marines who got reinfected had lower antibody levels and fewer neutralizing antibodies, compared to previously infected Marines who did not get reinfected, the study found.

"Although antibodies induced by initial infection are largely protective, they do not guarantee effective SARS-CoV-2 neutralisation activity or immunity against subsequent infection", the study mentioned.
"This analysis was performed as part of the prospective COVID-19 Health Action Response for Marines study (CHARM). CHARM included predominantly male US Marine recruits, aged 18–20 years, following a 2-week unsupervised quarantine at home", it said.

A separate study published in the Lancet in March found that the majority of people who have had COVID-19 are protected from getting it again for at least six months, but older people are more prone to reinfection than younger people. — Reuters

COVID-19 vaccines

**Foreign produced COVID-19 vaccines: Decision on emergency use applications to be taken in three days (The Tribune: 20210416)**

https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/foreign-produced-covid-19-vaccines-decision-on-emergency-use-applications-to-be-taken-in-3-days/article34326631.ece

Health Ministry issued regulatory pathways for foreign produced COVID-19 vaccines according to which the CDSCO has prepared detailed guidelines specifying regulatory pathway

India’s drug regulator will take a decision on applications seeking approval for restricted emergency use of foreign produced COVID-19 vaccines within three

Vaccinations

**Tika Utsav’ | Three States administered more than one crore vaccinations (The Tribune: 20210416)**

https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/tika-utsav-three-states-administered-more-than-one-crore-vaccinations/article34324745.ece

‘Tika Utsav’ saw many Workplace Vaccination Centres (CVCs) operational across private and public work places, the Ministry said.

Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh administered more than one crore COVID-19 vaccinations during the four-day ‘Tika Utsav’, the Health Ministry
Malls shut; no dine-in at restaurants; curfew in Delhi this weekend as positivity hits 20%

A woman is consoled by her children after her husband died due to Covid-19, outside a hospital in New Delhi on Thursday. REUTERS

The Delhi government on Thursday shut malls, gyms, restaurants, reduced capacity at cinemas until April 30, and clamped a curfew on movement and assembly of people this weekend, as part of its efforts to arrest surging coronavirus infections that threaten to overrun the health infrastructure in the city with India’s worst outbreak.

Malls, gymnasiums, spas, assembly halls, entertainment parks and auditoriums will be shut, dine-in facilities at restaurants in the city will be barred, and cinemas will be allowed to function at 30% capacity, said an order by the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA).

Only one weekly market per day per zone in municipal zones will be allowed, subject to compliance of Covid-19 protocols. Essential service workers and people out for emergencies, outstation travel or weddings will be allowed, said the order.

The weekend curfew will be in place between 10pm on Friday and 5am on Monday.

“On weekdays, people have to earn their livelihood. But on the weekend, people go out for entertainment and other activities, which can be curtailed. Hence, to break the chain of infections, we are imposing a weekend curfew,” said Kejriwal, an hour after meeting lieutenant governor Anil Baijal on the Capital’s coronavirus situation.

The CM, however, said that the situation will be monitored closely, and the curbs could be extended beyond April 30, and the curfew could also be imposed on following weekends, if needed. “People should not think of it as an inconvenience for them. It is in fact for their own safety,” he added.

Kejriwal also sought to allay fears that the Capital was out of hospital beds but asked citizens to not be choosy about where to get admitted.
The announcement comes a day after the city logged its highest one-day Covid-19 spike at 17,282 on Wednesday. The test positivity rate – a ratio of the number of positive cases to total tests conducted, and a measure of the scale of an outbreak in the region – has shot up from 0.59% a month ago, to 20.2% on Thursday – the highest in since June 26. Since April 1, the seven-day average of daily infections have shot up 590% and the city now has 54,309 active cases.

The weekend curfew comes on top of 10pm-5am night curfew restrictions that are in place until April 30. On Thursday, the city logged 16,699 cases but the positivity rate soared to 20.22% because of lower testing the previous day as it was a public holiday.

Over the weekend, restaurants will be allowed to do home deliveries and only establishments selling essential goods such as medicines, grocery or food items will be open. This means that regular markets will be open during the week, but will be shut this weekend, barring shops selling medicines or groceries. Cinemas will also be shut this weekend because only essential workers are allowed to travel.

Government and judicial officials, diplomats, journalists and doctors will be allowed to travel this weekend on production of a valid identity card. People coming from or going to airports, railway stations or interstate bus terminals will be allowed on production of a valid ticket. But all other workers -- grocery shop staff, internet workers, bank staff, delivery personnel, petrol pump workers, private security staff, among others -- and people going for Covid-19 vaccination will need to show a valid curfew pass to be allowed to travel. People feeling sick, going for a Covid-19 test or in medical emergencies will be allowed.

These passes will be available online on www.delhi.gov.in. A senior official said passes issued for the night curfew will be valid for movement during this weekend.

“We will not allow any inconvenience to those involved in essential services like going to hospitals, railway stations or airports and also weddings. We will issue passes for their movement quickly and without harassment,” Kejriwal said.

He added that steps will be taken to control crowds in all markets and public places. The government will also ensure a strict enforcement of Covd-appropriate behaviour such as wearing masks.

Public transport such as Delhi Metro and DTC and cluster buses will operate during the weekend but won’t allow the general public. Only essential workers will be allowed to board. The same will hold true for cabs or auto-rickshaws during the weekend.

The government allowed weddings to go ahead.
“This is the wedding season and many people’s weddings are also scheduled, and all preparations done. We don’t want to inconvenience them. We will allow their movement with curfew passes and they will be provided the same without any harassment,” Kejriwal said.

Under existing curbs, weddings can allow a maximum of 50 guests and funerals 20 guests.

At his virtual press conference, Kejriwal underlined that Delhi was not facing a shortage of Covid-19 beds. “Even now there are at least 5,000 beds vacant in the city for Covid-19 treatment. I request you all not to be choosy about the hospital you want to get your Covid-19 positive patient admitted to. If you do this, it will create a problem for us,” he said.

“Our priority is to get Covid-19 patients admitted to some hospital or the other, wherever a bed is available. We are also trying to increase oxygen beds further so that people can get treatment at the right time.”

An official, who attended the Kejriwal-Baijal meeting, said the L-G suggested that weekly markets be shifted to open playgrounds in schools so that enforcement agencies can ensure Covid-19 protocols are strictly followed.

“The night curfew will continue. As of now, there is no restriction on regular markets, other than weekly markets, or public places, except for the weekend. But there will be a stricter enforcement and people will be prosecuted if Covid-19 protocols [such as] wearing of masks or maintaining social distancing are not followed,” the official said on condition of anonymity.

The chief minister said he expects the support of people in implementing the restrictions, adding that the government will tide over the fourth wave of Covid-19 with the help of the citizens as it did earlier.

Saurabh Gandhi, general secretary of United Residents of Delhi, which represents around 1,800 Resident Welfare Associations in the city, said they will demand the weekend curfew be extended for 14 continuous days.

Anurag Katriar, president of the National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI), said a lion’s share of the food and beverages industry will be badly hit. Chirag Sethi, vice-president of Delhi Gyms Association, said the order was like a second lockdown for the city’s gyms which reopened on September 14 last year.

“It will be a major blow to the industry which has been struggling after the first lockdown imposed last year. Some of them will be forced to close business if the government does not intervee now,” said Sethi.

Dr GC Khilnani, former head of the department of pulmonology at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, said any impact of these curbs will be visible only seven to ten days later.

“The weekend curfews will slow down transmission at least during the 48-hour period. Transmission happens from person to person and if mobility is restricted, the transmission will go down. But, it will have a minor impact on the total incidence. Stopping dining in restaurants in a good measure,” he said.
विदेशी टीके तीन दिन में मंजूर होंगे

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता
विदेशों में निर्मित कोरोना टीकों को आवेदन के तीन दिन के भीतर देश में आयात संभव नहीं रहेगा। केंद्र सरकार के नूतनांक की मंजूरी को लेकर आवश्यक दिशानिर्देश जारी किए हैं।

स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय ने एक बयान में कहा कि केंद्रीय औषधि प्राधिकरण (सीडीएससीओ) आयात संभव नामक दिशानिर्देश के तहत मंजूरी आयात के लिए प्रार्थनाओं को स्वीकार करने का आदेश दिया है।

टीकों की मंजूरी के साथ ही क्लिनिकल ट्रायल का अपनी तरफ सरकार भी आवेदन करेगा। सीडीएससीओ के लिए सात दिनों तक मंजूरी देने का आदेश दिया गया है।

टीके की उपलब्धता बढ़ेगी
स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय ने कहा कि भारत के विदेशी टीकों की पहुंच होगी संभव। राष्ट्रपति बिरसमा भारत के राष्ट्रपति बने होंगे। देश के भीतर टीके की उपलब्धता भी बढ़ेगी।

Mask (Hindustan: 20210416)

https://epaper.livemint.com/imageview_767028_56476794_4_1_16-04-2021_2_i_1_sf.html
सर्दी-जुकाम की दवा के लिए भी भटक रहे

दिल्ली में छोटों के जाने बांटे से निरंतर हुई तंगी के शिकायतों की संख्या नहीं नियमित रूप से गिर रही है। क्योंकि लक्षण है अंतर्गत, यह निदान संकेतिकारक सत्य है कि बच्चों के लिए नया तंगी का नियमित रूप से शिकायत है।

लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है लक्षण है