



DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

LEADING HEALTH, POPULATION AND FAMILY WELFARE STORIES OF THE DAY

Friday

20210205

Virus

One in 5 Indians exposed to virus, says sero survey (Hindustan Times: 20210205)

What the report showed

Nearly 80% of the country remains vulnerable to Covid-19, shows data from ICMR's 3rd nationwide sero survey

21.4%

seroprevalence among adults across India, according to the survey

28,589

people tested for antibodies against Sars-Cov-2 as part of the the third sero survey

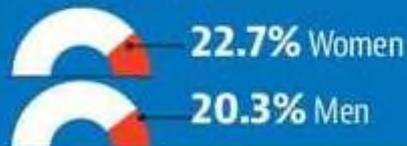
SURVEY PERIOD: The survey was conducted between Dec 17, 2020 & Jan 8, 2021

BY LOCATION OF RESIDENCE

Those living in urban slums were by far the ones most exposed to the virus



BY GENDER

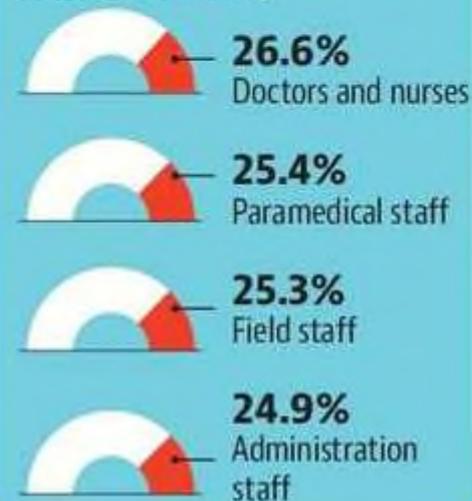


BY AGE



AMONG HEALTH CARE WORKERS

Officials said 7,171 health care workers were included among those tested in the third sero survey



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New Delhi : At least one in five (21%) Indians above the age of 18 years has been exposed to the coronavirus, according to Indian Council of Medical Research's (ICMR) third nationwide sero survey that tested samples from 28,589 people for antibodies between December 17, 2020 and January 8, 2021. Among health care workers, the seroprevalence was 25.7%.

The numbers represent a sharp jump from the previous rounds — the first sero survey (conducted in May-June 2020) showed 0.73% seroprevalence, while the second one (August-September, 2020) showed overall prevalence of 6.6%. A serological test is to detect whether a person has antibodies to the Sars-Cov-2, which would indicate a past infection.

Experts said the findings of the report show that a large proportion of the country – nearly 80% – remains susceptible to the virus.

In children between the ages of 10 and 17, the prevalence was 25.3%, and people above the age of 60 showed a prevalence of 23.4%, the report showed. In the general population, the prevalence was higher in urban slums (31.7%), followed by non-urban slums (26.2%), and rural areas (19.1%).

More women had antibodies compared to men, with a prevalence rate of 22.7% and 20.3% respectively.

In the general population, 28,589 individuals were tested for antibodies against Sars-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19. Additionally, 7,171 health care workers were also covered. The second group included hundred health care workers each from taluk hospitals, community health centres, primary health centres, etc, for each district covered in the country.

Doctors and nurses were affected the most with a seroprevalence of 26.6%, followed by paramedical staff (25.4%), field staff (25.3%), and administration staff (24.9%).

Presenting the findings of the report at a media briefing, ICMR director general Dr Balram Bhargava pointed out that a large proportion of people remained susceptible to catching the infection.

Experts echoed the views. “If 20% of the country has been exposed, then there are 80% who are still not exposed to the virus. That means we cannot afford to drop our guard. Covid vaccination has just started and there is still time before a significant percentage of population develops antibodies against the virus,” said Dr GC Khilnani, former head, pulmonary medicine department, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi.

The findings released on Thursday are from the third round of pan-India sero surveys conducted by ICMR. It was conducted in the same 700 villages, 70 districts from 21 states that were selected during the first and the second round of surveys, ICMR said.

“(The results of the latest sero survey) reflect the situation in the pre-vaccination period as vaccination drive started on January 16. The most sensitive test was used, and it was the same test that was used in the United States and showed the sero prevalence of 14.3%,” said Dr Bhargava.

“A large population still remains vulnerable to the virus, and vaccination is the key along with Covid-19 appropriate behaviour to stop the spread of the virus,” he added.

More than 4.6 million doses of Covid-19 vaccines have already been administered across the country in the past 18 days. Of the roughly 9.7 million (9,631,637) health care workers registered to be given a jab against Covid-19, about 45% (4,391,826) have received the first dose of the vaccine so far.

“We had estimated the number to be 10 million but when health care workers database was created on Co-WIN then it turned out to be 9,631,637 health care workers in all. So, this is the number that needs to be given both the doses of Covid-19 vaccine in the initial phase,” said Rajesh Bhushan, Union health secretary.

Thirteen states have covered at least 50% of their health care workers. Madhya Pradesh leads the states with 73.6% of health care workers being given the first dose in 18 days. It is followed by Rajasthan that has immunised 67% of its health care workforce, according to data from the Union health ministry.

Some states are yet to catch up; and there are 11 such states that have not been able to vaccinate more than 30% of its health care workers. Puducherry is still at 12.6%, followed up Manipur at 12.8%, and Meghalaya at 15.2% of its health care workers. Among bigger states, Tamil Nadu is also currently at 23.7%.

Covid Vax (The Asian Age: 20210205)

<http://onlinepaper.asianage.com/article/detailpage.aspx?id=15389468>

NEW | STUDY It will monitor impact of the different regimens on patients' immune responses

UK begins alternate dosing Covid vax trial

London, Feb. 4: Health chiefs in the UK on Thursday began what they have described as a world-first clinical trial of patients who will receive different Covid-19 vaccines for their first or second dose, to detect its impact on immunity against Coronavirus. The study, backed by 7 million pound of government funding, will determine the effects of using different vaccines for the first and second dose — for example, using Oxford University/AstraZeneca's vaccine for the

first dose, followed by Pfizer/BioNTech's vaccine for the second. It is being run by the National Immunisation Schedule Evaluation Consortium (NISEC) across eight National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) supported sites and also gather immunological evidence on different intervals between the first and second dose for a mixed-vaccine regimen against control groups when the same vaccine is used for both doses.

"This is a hugely important clinical trial that will

provide us with more vital evidence on the safety of these vaccines when used in different ways," said Nadhim Zahawi, Minister for Covid-19 Vaccine Deployment. "Nothing will be approved for use more widely than the study, or as part of our vaccine deployment programme, until researchers and the regulator are absolutely confident the approach is safe and effective. This is another great step forward for British science, expertise and innovation, backed by government funding —

and I look forward to seeing what it produces," he said. The 13-month study will monitor the impact of the different dosing regimens on patients' immune responses, which have the potential to be higher or lower than from the same dose regimen.

Initial findings are expected to be released later in the year. "Given the inevitable challenges of immunising large numbers of the population against Covid-19 and potential global supply constraints, there are definite advantages to

having data that could support a more flexible immunisation programme, if needed and if approved by the medicines regulator," said Professor Jonathan Van-Tam, England's Deputy Chief Medical Officer and Senior Responsible Officer for the study.

"It is also even possible that by combining vaccines, the immune response could be enhanced giving even higher antibody levels that last longer; unless this is evaluated in a clinical trial we just won't know. This study will give

us greater insight into how we can use vaccines to stay on top of this nasty disease," he said. The study has received ethics approval from the Research Ethics Committee, as well as approval from the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA). Over 800 patients are expected to take part in the study, referred to as the COVID-19 Heterologous Prime Boost study or 'Com-Cov', across eight different sites all over England.

— PTI

Coronavirus

Coronavirus | Vaccine death reports will be published, says adverse events panel expert (The Hindu: 20210205)

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/coronavirus-vaccine-death-reports-will-be-published-says-adverse-events-panel-expert/article33751937.ece>

COVID-19: India records 12,899 new cases

COVID-19: India records 12,899 new cases, 107 fatalities (The Hindu: 20210205)

A medic inoculates the first dose of COVID-19 vaccine to a health worker at a government hospital in Kolkata, West Bengal on February 3, 2021. | Photo Credit: PTI

The total COVID-19 active caes remained below 2 lakh

With 12,899 people testing positive for coronavirus infection in a day, India's COVID-19 tally of cases rose to 1,07,90,183, while the recoveries surged to 1,04,80,455, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on February 4.

The death toll increased to 1,54,703 with 107 new fatalities, the data updated at 8 a.m. showed.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 1,04,80,455 pushing the national COVID-19 recovery rate of 97.13%, while the COVID-19 case fatality rate stands at 1.43%.

The total COVID-19 active caes remained below 2 lakh.

There are 1,55,025 active coronavirus infections in the country which comprise 1.44% of the total cases, the data stated.

India's COVID-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on September 5 and 50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, crossed 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and surpassed the one-crore mark on December 19.

According to the ICMR, 19,92,16,019 samples have been tested up to February 3 with 7,42,841 samples being tested on February 3.

The 107 new fatalities include 30 from Maharashtra, 20 from Kerala, 7 each from Chhattisgarh and West Bengal and 6 each from Delhi and Uttar Pradesh.

A total of 1,54,703 deaths have been reported so far in the country including 51,169 from Maharashtra followed by 12,371 from Tamil Nadu, 12,225 from Karnataka, 10,864 from Delhi, 10,195 from West Bengal, 8,674 from Uttar Pradesh and 7,157 from Andhra Pradesh.

The Health Ministry stressed that more than 70% of the deaths occurred due to comorbidities.

“Our figures are being reconciled with the Indian Council of Medical Research,” the Ministry said on its website, adding that State-wise distribution of figures is subject to further verification and reconciliation.

देश के एक तिहाई जिलों में कोरोना से मौत नहीं

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

कोरोना वायरस के मोर्चे पर राहत की खबर है। स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय ने गुरुवार को बताया कि कोरोना से होने वाली मौतों की संख्या तेजी से घट रही है। देश के 718 जिलों में से 251 (करीब एक तिहाई) जिलों में तीन हफ्तों से कोई मौत नहीं हुई है। वहीं, 47 जिलों में कोई नया मामला सामने नहीं आया है।

स्वास्थ्य सचिव राजेश भूषण ने गुरुवार को यह जानकारी दी। भूषण ने कहा, अगर हम की गई जांच के आधार पर कोविड-19 के लिए नमूने के

सुखद

- संक्रमण के मोर्चे पर देशवासियों के लिए राहत भरी खबर
- 47 जिलों में तीन हफ्ते से संक्रमण का नया मामला नहीं

संक्रमित आने की दर को देखें तो यह चार अगस्त को 8.89 प्रतिशत थी जो चार फरवरी को 5.42 फीसदी हो गई। यह कम हो रही है। उन्होंने कहा, नमूनों के संक्रमित आने की साप्ताहिक दर 1.82 फीसदी दर्ज की गई है।

➤ 50% से अधिक टीके पेज 11

एक दिन में रिकॉर्ड 9494 लोगों ने लगवाया टीका फ्रंटलाइन कर्मचारियों का टीकाकरण शुरू



नई दिल्ली | वरिष्ठ संवाददाता

दिल्ली में गुरुवार को कोरोना के खिलाफ टीकाकरण अभियान को 13 दिन हो गए। इस दौरान दिल्ली में 9494 कर्मचारियों ने कोरोना के खिलाफ टीका लगवाया। यह अभी तक राजधानी में सबसे अधिक लोगों को टीका लगाने का रिकॉर्ड है।

गुरुवार से दिल्ली में स्वास्थ्यकर्मियों के अलावा फ्रंटलाइन कर्मचारियों को भी टीका लगाया गया। इनमें पुलिस कर्मी, वीएसएफ के जवान और अन्य सुरक्षा कर्मी और सफाई कर्मी शामिल रहे।

13 लोगों में दुष्प्रभाव देखे गए:

टीका लगवाने के बाद गुरुवार को 13 लोगों में हल्के दुष्प्रभाव देखे गए। इनमें से किसी को भी अस्पताल में भर्ती करने की जरूरत नहीं पड़ी।

वहीं 10 लोगों में कोविडशिल्ड लगवाने के बाद दुष्प्रभाव देखे गए। वहीं स्वास्थ्य विभाग के अनुसार, कोवैक्सिन लगवाने वाले तीन लोगों में हल्के दुष्प्रभाव देखे गए।



18 हजार से अधिक लोगों के टीकाकरण का लक्ष्य रखा गया था

51 फीसदी वैक्सीनेशन का लक्ष्य पूरा किया गया गुरुवार को

दिल्ली के 183 केंद्रों पर वैक्सीन लगाई गई

स्वास्थ्य विभाग के अनुसार, कुल 183 केंद्रों पर टीकाकरण किया गया। इस दौरान 18,300 लोगों को टीका लगाना था। इनमें से 9494 ने टीका लगवाया। इस हिसाब से गुरुवार को टीकाकरण के निर्धारित लक्ष्य का 51 फीसदी लक्ष्य हासिल किया गया। दिल्ली के लोकनायक में 100, आकाश अस्पताल में 24 और पीएसआरआई में 47 लोगों को टीका लगाया गया। आकाश अस्पताल में टीकाकरण करने वाले सभी लोग सफाई कर्मी थे।

मध्य जिले में सबसे अधिक लक्ष्य पूरा किया गया

जिला	केंद्र	टीका लगा
मध्य दिल्ली	30	1266
पूर्वी दिल्ली	12	557
नई दिल्ली	15	605
उत्तरी	6	563
उत्तर पूर्वी	5	402
उत्तर पश्चिमी	22	1135
शाहदद	14	841
दक्षिणी जिला	26	1162
दक्षिणी पूर्वी	11	1008
दक्षिणी पश्चिमी	15	716
पश्चिमी	19	1240

नई दिल्ली | वरिष्ठ संवाददाता

दिल्ली में गुरुवार से दूसरे चरण का टीकाकरण कार्यक्रम शुरू हो गया है। स्वास्थ्य कर्मचारियों के अलावा दिल्ली में अब फ्रंटलाइन कर्मचारियों जैसे पुलिसकर्मियों, सुरक्षाकर्मियों, अधिकारियों और अन्य कर्मचारियों को कोरोना का टीका लगाया गया।

राजधानी में गुरुवार को अलग-अलग केंद्रों पर सफाई कर्मचारी, दिल्ली पुलिस और प्रशासनिक कर्मचारियों को टीका लगा गया। इस दौरान दिल्ली के दो जिलाधिकारियों ने सबसे पहले टीका

लगाकर सोशल मीडिया पर टीकाकरण को बढ़ावा देने का संदेश भी दिया है। उत्तरी दिल्ली जिले की जिलाधिकारी इशा खोसला ने जिले के टीका केंद्र पर जाकर कोविडशिल्ड टीका को पहली डोज ली।

हफ्ते में छह दिन वैक्सीन लगेगी: दूसरे चरण के महेनजर अब दिल्ली में छह दिन वैक्सीन लगाई जाएगी। पहले चरण में सोमवार, मंगलवार, गुरुवार और शनिवार को टीकाकरण होता था। अब हफ्ते में छह दिन यानी सोमवार से शनिवार तक टीकाकरण होगा और रविवार को टीकाकरण केंद्र बंद रहेंगे।

Infection

रिकवरी रेट दे रहे बेहतर संकेत, संक्रमण के नए मामलों से अधिक हैं स्वस्थ होने वालों की संख्या (Dainik Jagran: 20210205)

https://www.jagran.com/news/national-india-reports-12408-new-covid19-cases-15853-discharges-120-deaths-in-last-24-hours-common-man-issues-21338561.html?itm_source=website&itm_medium=homepage&itm_campaign=p1_comp onent

स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय द्वारा जारी आंकड़ों के अनुसार देश में बीते 24 घंटों के दौरान 12 हजार 4 सौ 8 संक्रमण के मामले सामने आए और 120 लोगों की मौत हो गई वहीं संक्रमण से स्वस्थ हो अस्पताल से डिस्चार्ज हुए मरीजों का कुल आंकड़ा 15 हजार 8 सौ 53 है

नई दिल्ली, एएनआइ। पिछले 24 घंटों के दौरान देश में 12 हजार से अधिक कोविड-19 संक्रमण के मामले सामने आए और इस दौरान 100 से अधिक लोगों की मौत हुई है लेकिन संक्रमण से स्वस्थ होने वाले आंकड़ों से थोड़ी निश्चिंतता के संकेत मिल रहे हैं। स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय द्वारा शुक्रवार सुबह जारी आंकड़ों के अनुसार, देश में बीते 24 घंटों के दौरान 12 हजार 4 सौ 8 संक्रमण के मामले सामने आए और 120 लोगों की मौत हो गई वहीं संक्रमण से स्वस्थ हो अस्पताल से डिस्चार्ज हुए मरीजों का कुल आंकड़ा 15 हजार 8 सौ 53 है जो इस बात का संकेत है कि वैक्सीन के आने के बाद महामारी पर धीरे धीरे काबू हो रहा है।

इसके बाद अब तक देश में कुल कोविड-19 संक्रमितों का आंकड़ा 1 करोड़ 8 लाख 2 हजार 5 सौ 91 हो गई। वहीं मरने वालों का कुल आंकड़ा 1 लाख 54 हजार 8 सौ 23 हो गई है। वर्तमान में देश में कोविड-19 के कुल एक्टिव केस 1 लाख 51 हजार 4 सौ 60 है वहीं अब तक संक्रमण से स्वस्थ हो अस्पताल से डिस्चार्ज होने वालों का कुल आंकड़ा 1 करोड़ 4 लाख 96 हजार 3 सौ 8 है।

50 लाख के करीब वैक्सीन लेने वालों का आंकड़ा

16 जनवरी से देश में वैक्सीनेशन की प्रक्रिया शुरू हो गई है और अब तक कुल 49 लाख 59 हजार 4 सौ 45 लोगों को कोरोना वायरस की वैक्सीन लगाई गई है। भारतीय चिकित्सा अनुसंधान परिषद (ICMR) के अनुसार, भारत में कल तक कोरोना वायरस संक्रमण के लिए कुल 19 करोड़ 99 लाख 31 हजार 7 सौ 95 सैंपल टेस्ट किए जा चुके हैं। इनमें से 7 लाख 15 हजार 7 सौ 76 सैंपल कल टेस्ट किए गए।

देश की संक्रमित राजधानी दिल्ली पर एक नजर:

मंत्रालय के अनुसार, देश की राजधानी दिल्ली में पिछले 24 घंटों में कोविड-19 संक्रमण के 158 नए मामले आए जबकि 165 संक्रमित मरीज स्वस्थ हुए और 7 संक्रमितों की मौतें दर्ज की गई हैं। वर्तमान में कोविड-19 के कुल सक्रिय मामले 1194 हैं। अब तक राजधानी में कुल संक्रमण के मामले 6 लाख 35 हजार 6 सौ 39 हैं वहीं संक्रमण से स्वस्थ वालों का आंकड़ा 6 लाख 23 हजार 5 सौ 74 है। अब तक कोविड-19 के कारण मरने वालों की संख्या 10 हजार 8 सौ 71 है।

यूँ पहुंचा 1 करोड़ के पार

7 अगस्त 2020 को भारत के कोविड-19 मामलों का आंकड़ा 7 लाख के पार चला गया वहीं 23 अगस्त को 30 लाख से अधिक, 5 सितंबर को 40 लाख से अधिक और 16 सितंबर को संक्रमण के आंकड़ों ने 50 लाख को पार कर लिया। 28 सितंबर को कोरोना मामलों ने देश के ग्राफ को 60 लाख से अधिक बढ़ा दिया और 11 अक्टूबर 2020 को 70 लाख

के पार वहीं 29 अक्टूबर को यह आंकड़ा 80 लाख से अधिक हो गया था। 20 नवंबर को 90 लाख और 19 दिसंबर को एक करोड़ से अधिक लोग संक्रमित हो गए थे।

Genetic mutations

Genetic mutations increase risk of breast cancer by 80pc: Experts (New Kerala: 20210205)

<https://www.newkerala.com/news/2021/21873.htm>

According to statistics released by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in December 2020 and cited by the World Health Organization (WHO), breast cancer has now surpassed lung cancer as the world's most commonly diagnosed cancer.

The subject experts suggested that to a large extent, the disease is hereditary in nature. The experts said that inheritance, either by disease history in family or by genetic changes, augments the probability of developing cancer.

According to them, highly predisposed to developing breast and ovarian cancer are those whose family has a history of breast cancer or found inheriting a separate set of genes.

Speaking to IANS on World Cancer Day on Thursday, Pragya Shukla, Head of Department, Clinical Oncology, at the Delhi State Cancer Institute, said that offsprings of a cancer survivor are also more susceptible to developing breast or ovarian cancer.

"A woman is more prone to develop breast or ovarian cancer if either her mother is a cancer survivor or any of her immediate family members has a history of this disease," she said.

M.D. Ray, Additional Professor, Surgical Oncology, at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), also said that breast cancer can be inherited if a woman has a close family member who had developed the disease.

However, the family history is majorly defined by genetic mutations in a specific set of genes found augmenting the disease occurrence.

The Nanavati Super Speciality Hospital in Mumbai informed that the risk of breast cancer is over 80 per cent higher in those who inherit a specific set of mutated genes -- BRCA1 and BRCA2

"The most common genes changes are those of the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes and women with these genes have more than 80 per cent chance of getting breast cancer during their lifetime," said Sanjay Dudhat, Head Oncosurgeon at the hospital.

BRCA1 (BREast CAncer gene 1) and BRCA2 (BREast CAncer gene 2) are genes that produce proteins that help repair damaged DNA. Everyone has two copies of each of these genes -- one copy inherited from each parent. However, when these genes undergo certain harmful changes, their variant becomes potent enough to cause cancer cells. People who inherit harmful variants in one of these genes have increased risks of several cancers -- most notably breast and ovarian cancer.

People who have inherited a harmful variant in BRCA1 and BRCA2 also tend to develop cancer at younger ages than people who do not have such a variant.

The Indraprastha Apollo Hospital in Delhi said that inherited mutated genes is a risk factor of breast cancer that one cannot change. "BRCA 1 and BRCA 2 are hereditary genes that if passed from the mother (who has suffered from breast cancer) to the children can put them at a higher risk of developing breast cancer and ovarian cancer," said Ramesh Sarin, Senior Consultant, Surgical Oncology at Apollo.

However, he added that screening and genetic counselling can help in early identification for the timely treatment of the disease. "Issue with any kind of cancer is that it never shows symptoms in early stages. While there are no sure shot ways to prevent cancer, certain steps can help lower the risk or detect breast cancer at an early stage," Sarin said.

The experts recommended screening with several tests including mammography, specialised monitoring and BRCA gene test to have an upper hand over the disease.

"The BRCA gene test is a blood test that uses DNA analysis to identify harmful mutations in either one of the two breast cancer susceptibility genes. It is not a routine test and is done only on people who are likely to have inherited either of the BRCA genes based on family history of breast and ovarian cancer," Sarin recommended.

Dudhat advised to find out high risk individuals through genetic counselling and keeping them under proper screening programmes with regular mammography and in selected cases, MRI mammography.

Sarin said that mammography in young girls is not recommended. However, he suggested that the family should be aware of the risk and also stays in constant touch with a breast physician for regular monitoring.

Meanwhile, Shukla advised that annual screening is must for females above 40 years of age including mammography and x-ray of chest area. "However, females in families having a history of breast cancer must be vigilant. We prescribe screening of them from the age of 25 onwards" she added.

