

**GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
REVENUE DEPARTMENT (HQ)
5, SHAM NATH MARG, DELHI-110054**

No.1(461)/DDMA(HQ)/miscellaneous/Covid-19/2020/ 2167

Dated: 24/12/20

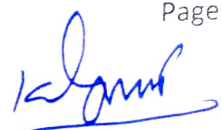
**MINUTES OF THE 14th MEETING OF DDMA HELD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING
ON 21.12.2020 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF HON'BLE LT. GOVERNOR, DELHI**

1. A meeting to discuss the COVID-19 pandemic situation in NCT of Delhi was held on December 21, 2020 through Video Conferencing under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Lt. Governor. The 13th meeting of DDMA had been last held on 25.11.2020, in which the overall management of COVID-19 had been reviewed by DDMA.
2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the participants. He appreciated the efforts made, by all, so far with respect to handling the COVID-19 situation and stressed that efforts need to be sustained.
3. Thereafter, Pr. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD made a presentation and apprised about the current situation/scenario in Delhi. The presentation outlined the statistical review of COVID situation in Delhi in respect of recent trends of COVID cases, testing, surveillance and containment measures, hospital preparedness and COVID vaccine roll out preparedness. The situation of Delhi vis-à-vis India was presented. At present, the Recovery Rate of Delhi stands at 96.7% which compare favorably to the national figure of 95.46%. The tests per million for Delhi stands at 4,10,545 as compared to 1,19,229 at national level. The Case Fatality Rate (CFR) in respect of Delhi at 1.67% is now reaching close to the national figure of 1.45%.
4. The recent trend of daily cases and active cases since the last DDMA meeting on 25.11.2020 i.e. for the period 25.11.2020 to 19.12.2020, testing status, testing statistics etc. were also presented. The peak of the third surge of COVID-19 is behind us and there has been a discernible decline in cases in the last two weeks. The testing levels in Delhi have increased substantially with more than 85,000 daily tests on an average basis in the last week with a peak of 90,354 tests on 16.12.2020. Within this, the number of RT-PCR tests has seen a significant increase to 49,102 tests on 16.12.2020 vis-à-vis 28897 tests on 25.11.2020. The number of contacts traced per active case has also gone up to 21.87% during the month of December, 2020 as compared to 15.75% in November, 2020. Significantly, the percentage of active cases within containment zones has increased to 60.93% as on 28.12.2020 as compared to 35.11% on 18.11.2020. The number of containment zones have increased from 4444 to 5991 within this period. It was also explained that



number of containment zones in market areas have increased from 121 to 295 during this period as emphasis was on tight surveillance in the market areas as these places were found to be hot-spots and super spreading areas. It was also shared that special emphasis continues to be given to the home-isolation strategy and only three deaths from home isolation have been reported in the last 3 months. Moreover, the number of deaths within 72 hours of hospitalization has also reduced from 33.2% to 19.08% in December which is substantially lower as compared to November, 2020 when it was 33.2%. Further, it was informed that in pursuance of the revised testing strategy, case positivity rate of RT-PCR tests has fallen to 5.52% as on December 19, 2020 as compared to 22.33% in November, 2020. A total of 6,05,420 RT-PCR tests were conducted in the month of November, 2020, whereas 6,98,884 RT-PCR tests have been conducted as of 19th December, 2020. An overall case positivity rate have fallen to 2.96% as compared to 11.74% in November, 2020.

5. Thereafter, an overview of the status of the hospital beds capacity and the trend of hospital occupancy vis-à-vis active cases were also shared. It was informed that the total bed capacity has been increased from 14974 on 18.09.2020 to 18770 on 20.12.2020 with 15773 beds being vacant at present.
6. On COVID vaccine rollout preparedness issue, Pr. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD informed that all the scheduled tasks have been completed as per timeline given by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India. Healthcare workers data collection, State Steering Committee meeting, State Task Force meeting, District Task Force meeting and Sub-division task force meeting have already been held.
7. After the presentation, worthy Chief Secretary requested the experts to provide their valuable guidance and other issues for consideration.
8. Dr. Guleria, Director, AIIMS congratulated the Govt. of NCT of Delhi for the outstanding work in managing the surge of cases in the month of November, 2020 but he emphasized that Case Fatality Rate is higher as compared to National level. He stressed the need to look at death analysis of the COVID patients and find out the reasons for the same. He observed that incidence of cases has come down substantially as such sero surveillance surveys may be planned. He also suggested that de-escalation of exclusive COVID-19 bed capacity to free up capacity for other surgeries must also be considered. This can be done in a graded manner so that if we have to revert back for any surge in COVID cases, we can do it quickly.
9. Dr. Sujit Kumar Singh, Director NCDC complimented the officers and medical staff and also the general public for coming together to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in NCT of Delhi. He observed that situation has improved considerably on all parameters registering a drop of more than 30% and there was definite improvement with only 3.31% of positivity rate. He further requested that RT-PCR tests should be



the guiding force for any representative testing. He suggested that labs may be directed to conduct H-1 / N-1 testing of all COVID negative samples also.

10. Dr. V.K. Paul observed that the situation has improved significantly and appreciated the efforts made by all concerned in GNCT of Delhi. He stated that the isolation of positive cases should continue and 15 contacts must be traced for every positive case. He warned about the reports of UK virus strain with excessive transmission possibilities and advised that Delhi should prepare to address this issue. Surveillance system would have to be strengthened to prepare for the challenge of this new strain. On vaccination strategy, he emphasized that Delhi may have residents of other states staying temporarily, so we need to prepare for them. Efforts on COVID Appropriate Behaviour must be continued and all authorities have to ensure adequate efforts.
11. Dr. Nivedita Gupta, representing the DG, ICMR stressed the need for increased RT-PCR testing and emphasized that Rapid Antigen tests should not be more than 30-40% of the total tests.
12. Sh. Krishna Vatsa, Member NDMA congratulated the good work under the leadership of Hon'ble Lt. Governor and Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi. He observed that now that incidence of COVID cases have declined, post pandemic preparation plan must also be prepared. He also stated that New Year celebrations should be curbed.
13. Thereafter, worthy Chief Secretary summed up the deliberations and complimented all concerned for their outstanding performance in a challenging situation. He observed that as per the advice of all experts, a textbook compliance has been ensured and resultantly third wave COVID surge has been tamed in NCT of Delhi. He assured that RT-PCR testing would be a benchmark and COVID appropriate behaviour would be promoted & enforced. The Chief Secretary, also referred to a communication received from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India regarding de-escalation plan and desired advice from the experts. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, Niti Aayog informed that considering the discernible decline in the number of COVID positive cases in NCT of Delhi, there was room for de-escalation. He suggested forming of a committee to evaluate the situation and which would advice on this aspect in one or two days.
14. Hon'ble Chief Minister observed that it was very heartening to note that Delhi is in control of situation but mentioned that UK news on new virus strain was disturbing. He further suggested that irrespective of UK flights, 10 days quarantine for all arriving passengers from Europe may be planned.
15. Finally, the Hon'ble Lt. Governor congratulated the Hon'ble Chief Minister and Council of Ministers for having lead as a team in the fight against the COVID-19



during third surge in NCT of Delhi. He appreciated the efforts made by so far by all concerned in the fight against COVID-19 and observed that results and number speaks for itself. However, he advised that we have to be careful about the new virus strain that has been reported in UK. On de-escalation plan he suggested that the committee / group should give its recommendations and decision would be taken accordingly.

16. The members of Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) also resolved to ratify decisions / orders issued since the last meeting in view of the exigency.

17. The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the chair.



(K.S. Meena, IAS)
Spl. CEO, DDMA

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Dated: 24/12/2020

Copy to:-

1. Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi.
2. Addl. Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, GNCTD.
3. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog, Gol.
4. Secretary to the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi.
5. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Health, GNCTD.
6. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Revenue, GNCTD.
7. OSD to Chief Secretary, GNCTD.
8. Addl. Chief Secretary (Services)/ State Nodal Officer, GNCT of Delhi.
9. ACS (UD) / Director, Local Bodies, Delhi Secretariat Delhi
10. Commissioner of Police, GNCT of Delhi.
11. Addl. Secretary (Policy and Plan), NDMA, MHA, Govt. of India.
12. General Officer Commanding (HQ), Delhi Cantt. Area, Delhi
13. Pr. Secretary (Home), GNCTD.
14. Pr. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD.
15. Pr. Secretary (Revenue), GNCTD.
16. Prof. Balram Bhargava, DG-ICMR, Gol.
17. Sh. Krishna Vatsa, Member NDMA
18. Sh. Kamal Kishore, Member NDMA
19. Dr. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS
20. Dr. P. Ravindran, Addl. DDG (DGHS) & Director EMR, MoHFW, Gol
21. Dr. Sujit Kumar Singh, Director, NCDC.
22. Sr. System Analyst, Revenue Department, GNCTD for uploading the Minutes of Meeting on the DDMA website.



(K.S. Meena, IAS)
Spl. CEO, DDMA