

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI

DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

F.No.1(461)/DDMA(HQ)/miscellaneous/COVID-19/Part file/2020/2340 Dated: 17.03.2021

MINUTES OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (DDMA) HELD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING ON 22.02.2021 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF HON'BLE LT. GOVERNOR, DELHI

1. The 17<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss the COVID-19 pandemic situation in NCT of Delhi was held on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 through Video Conferencing under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi.
2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the participants. He appreciated the efforts made by all the stakeholders so far with respect to handling the COVID-19 situation and emphasised the need to continue to be vigilant without lowering guard to contain any possibility of resurgence of the infection .
3. Thereafter, Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD made a presentation and apprised the house about the COVID-19 situation in Delhi. The presentation outlined statistical review of COVID situation in Delhi in respect of recent trends of COVID cases, testing and vaccination status, de-escalation of hospital beds, sero survey, covid vaccine rollout status. A snap-shot of COVID-19 cases in Delhi vis-a-vis India was presented was under:-

Summary	India	Delhi
Total Cases	10991651*	637755
Total recovered/discharged/migrated	10689715*	625832
Total active Cases	145634*	1025
Total number of deaths	156302*	10898
Case Fatality Rate (in %)	1.42%*	1.71%
Recovery Rate (in %)	97.27%*	98.13%
Growth Rate	0.11%	0.02%
Total Tests Done	210931530** *	11908127***
Tests per million	156014	626743

4. It was highlighted that the recovery rate of Delhi stands at 98.13%, which is more than the national average of 97.27%. The tests per million for Delhi are nearly four times the National average at 6,26,743 and compare favorably to 1,56,014 at the National level.
5. The recent trend of daily cases and active cases since the last DDMA meeting on 06.01.2021 were also presented. It was explained that active cases have fallen to around 1025 which is 0.74% of the total active cases in India. Daily



testing levels in Delhi have been maintained around 65,000 – 70,000 tests. The percentage of RT-PCR tests till 20 February, 2021 was over 63% of the total tests. The positivity rate for RT-PCR tests have also seen a significant decline from 22.33% in November, 2020 to 3.71% in December, 2020, 0.69% in January, 2021 to 0.31% in February, 2021, which is a very reassuring trend. The total positivity rate has also been on a decline from 11.74% in November, 2020 to 2.15% in December, 2020, 0.44% in January, 2021 to 0.23% as on 20 February, 2021.. A total of 6,05,420 RT-PCR tests were conducted in the month of November, 2020, 12,02,697 in December, 2020, 11,78,700 in January and 7,62,123 till February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The net positivity rate has also fallen to 0.23% and daily deaths have also been in single digits. In the last one month or so, daily deaths have fallen to less than 10 and 3 days in February reported Nil deaths.

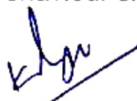
6. Secretary (H&FW) also presented details of surveillance in respect of persons returning from United Kingdom (U.K.) for the period 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2021. It was informed that as per protocol / guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India all 11151 international UK passengers in 69 flights landed at Delhi were tested. Only 38 positives cases were found (positivity = 0.29%) and all positive samples were sent to NCDC for Genome Sequencing. 1326 passengers testing negative, were sent to institutional quarantine. The information relating to 9787 international passengers testing negative, who took connecting flights to other states, was shared with the concerned State Surveillance units and District Administration of the concerned States for vigorous follow up.
7. Secretary (H & FW) further mentioned that new guidelines effective from the midnight of 22.02.2021 for international arrivals have been issued with new SOP, by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India on 17.02.2021. In pursuance of these, a DDMA order dated 19.02.2021 has already been issued. Necessary order for augmentation of Airport duty staff has also been issued for expected increase in arrivals.
8. Thereafter, an overview of the status of the hospital beds capacity and de-escalation exercise was shared. It was informed that as on 21.02.2021, after de-escalation, a total bed capacity is 5751 and, at present 5329 beds are vacant. Considering the comfortable level of vacant beds and the number of active cases, a further de-escalation can also be considered as per advice of experts.
9. On COVID-19 vaccine roll out issue, Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD informed that in 04 supply cycles, a total of 14,52,980 vaccines have been received upto 18.02.2021 with Covidshield comprising as 81% and Covaxin 19%. A consignment of 2,54,500 Covishield was received on 12.01.2021 and a further consignment of 20,000 Covaxin were received on 13.01.2021 in the supply cycle 1. The percentage of vaccine type was 93% Covishield with 7% Covaxin. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> supply cycle, a consignment of 2,88,500 Covishield was received on 20.01.2021 and consignment of 1,50,400 Covaxin was received on 23.01.2021. The percentage was Covishield 66% and Covaxin 24% in the supply cycle 2.





The vaccination drive was launched on 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 at 81 sites in 81 hospitals as prescribed by the Government of India. Since then vaccination sites have been scaled up to 308 sites in 212 hospitals.

10. Secretary (H&FW) also informed that among the prioritized beneficiaries of HCWs comprising total of 2.6 lacs, 131854 (50.7%) have been vaccinated as on 20.02.2021. It was also pointed out that only about 10% (4969) out of 45994 HCWs of Delhi's i.e. AIIMS, Safdarjung, RML & LHMC have got vaccinated. Considering that these 04 premier hospitals account for nearly 18% of Delhi's cohort of HCWs, it has a direct impact on the overall percentage coverage of HCWs in Delhi.
11. After the presentation, Chief Secretary pointed out that positivity rate in Delhi has fallen below 1% and it was one of the lowest in the country. He touched upon the journey on COVID-19 management under the guidance of Hon'ble L.G. and Hon'ble Chief Minister and Council of Members. He mentioned that it was very satisfying to note that cases have fallen from a peak of about 8000 cases per day to around 100-150 cases per day now. He referred to reports of rising cases of COVID-19 in the States of Maharashtra, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab, and thus, highest vigil and close watch is necessary for all arrivals from these states. He assured the members of the DDMA a detailed plan to tackle any emerging situation would be put in place shortly.
12. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, Niti Aayog, Gol, commended the tremendous work of all Officers, doctors and other health, municipal and other workers. He appreciated a well coordinated response to a very challenging situation which has been controlled to a great extent. He emphasized that the focus should remain on RT-PCR testing and it must be continued. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, advised constant monitoring of virulent strain and active collaboration of Delhi Government and NCDC for genome sequencing. Mutant strains are developing and scientific cluster based surveillance strategy would have to be followed. Genome based sequencing should be the strategy for some more time. Close watch on international arrivals must be kept. As far as arrivals from other States are concerned, he observed that it was a sensitive matter but stressed that a close watch on the emerging situation would have to be maintained.
13. Dr. Guleria, Director, AIIMS agreed with the observations made by Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, Niti Aayog. He stated that Delhi has so far done very well but caution must be maintained. He stressed the need for aggressive genome sequencing and strict cluster based surveillance. COVID appropriate behaviour by all must be promoted. Sensitization and awareness on vaccination be continued so that fear and vaccine hesitancy is removed.
14. Prof. Balram Bhargava, DG-ICMR, congratulated for all the hard work and results were reflected in the presentation. On sero-prevalence, he pointed out that Brazil had 76% sero-prevalence data, yet the COVID cases continued to rise there. Therefore, 56% of sero-prevalence may not be of much consequence. He reiterated that Delhi should ensure no mass gatherings and must ensure COVID Appropriate Behaviour by the public.
15. Sh. Krishna Vatsa, Member, NDMA stated that all points have been covered in the discussions. He congratulated the officers, doctors and all health care workers for their great work in containing the spread of virus. He observed that COVID virus has a long tail and stressed that continued surveillance, vaccination, IEC and Covid Appropriate Behaviour should be earnestly followed.



16. Dr. Sujit Kumar Singh, Director NCDC observed that cases in Delhi have declined constantly in the last 02 months. He stressed the need for continued surveillance, RT-PCR testing and COVID appropriate behaviour should be the guiding force in keeping the situation under control. Super spreading events must be checked. He cautioned about situations as in Akola & Amrawati where home isolation was not being scrupulously followed.
17. Hon'ble Chief Minister, Delhi observed that situation in Delhi is very good and under absolute control. He however, mentioned that Maharastra situation is worrying and need is to keep a close watch on the situation.
18. Finally, on the basis of the advice of the experts, Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi stressed upon the adoption of cluster based surveillance, testing and genome sequencing strategy, strict enforcement of COVID compliant behavior along with maintenance of current levels of RT-PCR testing to contain the infection. Hon'ble Lt. Governor also advised the Health Department to scale up vaccination efforts so as to enhance coverage and to undertake an appropriate IEC campaign to sensitise people about COVID-19 vaccination. He once again appreciated the officers, field workers and health care workers for having done a good work.
19. The members of Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) also resolved to ratify decisions / orders issued since the last meeting.
20. The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the chair.



(K.S. Meena, IAS)

Spl. CEO, DDMA

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**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, Govt. of India.
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, GNCTD 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, Govt. of India.
17. Sh. Krishna Vatsa, Member, NDMA, Gol.
18. Sh. Kamal Kishore, Member, NDMA, Gol.
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**