GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE 21st MEETING OF DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (DDMA) HELD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING ON 28.05.2021 UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF HON'BLE LT. GOVERNOR, DELHI

- The 21st DDMA meeting to discuss the COVID-19 pandemic situation in NCT of Delhi was held on May 28, 2021 through Video Conferencing under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi.
- At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed all the participants and requested the Experts to share their views on current situation of COVID-19 pandemic in NCT of Delhi.
- The Chief Secretary (in charge), Delhi requested Sh. Amit Singla, Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, GNCTD to make a presentation on the current situation and management of COVID-19 pandemic in Delhi.
- 4. Thereafter, Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD made a presentation and apprised the participants about the current situation of COVID-19 pandemic in NCT of Delhi. The presentation outlined the statistical review of COVID-19 pandemic in Delhi in respect of current situation & trend analysis of COVID cases, testing and containment measures, health system preparedness, home isolation and helpline, enforcement of COVID appropriate behaviour, ICCC and vaccination in GNCT Delhi. A snap-shot of COVID-19 cases in Delhi vis-a-vis India was presented as under:-

Summary	India	Delhi
Total Cases	27369093	1421477
Total recovered/discharged/migrated	24633951	1378634
Total active Cases	2419907	19148
Total number of deaths	315235	23695
Case Fatality Rate (in %)	1.15%	1.67%
Recovery Rate (in %)	90.01%	96.99%
Growth Rate	0.86%	0.15%



	336969353	18939206
Total Tests Done	249237	996800
Tests per million		

- 5. It was highlighted that as far as testing in Delhi was concerned, it has been ahead of the National average. The tests per million in Delhi are nearly four times the National average at 9,96,800 and compares favorably to 2,49,237 at the National level. Thereafter, the data on testing positive cases, deaths, containment zones and enforcement w.e.f. 01.05.2021 to 26.05.2021 was shared with the participants. It was mentioned that on 01.05.2021, Delhi had 20,934 positive cases with a positivity rate of 28.33% with 400 deaths and as on 26.05.2021, the positive cases have fallen to 1072 with a positivity rate of 1.53% and deaths have also fallen to 130. The ratio of RT-PCR testing has been more than 66% of the total tests in the month of April, 2021 and thereafter has further increased to 76.24% in the month of May, 2021.
- 6. Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, GNCTD referred to the impact of the lockdown measures which were announced on 19.04.2021 and mentioned that number of positive cases on that date were 23,686 with a positivity rate of 26.12% and on 26.05.2021 the number of positive cases have fallen to 1491 with a positivity rate of 1.93%. Total number of active cases have also come down to 19,148 from 76,887 during the above period. He also highlighted the impact of suspension of metro services w.e.f. 10.05.2021 and stated that the number of positive cases and positivity rate have substantially decreased in all the districts which has access and connectivity of metro with the NCR region.
- 7. Thereafter, an overview of the status of the hospital beds capacity and escalation of beds in all types of hospitals was shared. It was informed that on 01.04.2021, total dedicated beds capacity was 6,000, which has now been escalated to 25,129 on 26.05.2021. Oxygenated bed capacity during this period has been increased from 4,936 to 22,042. The ICU bed capacity also increased from 1,996 to 6,887 and number of ventilators also increased from 777 to 2,561 w.e.f. 01.04.2021 to 26.05.2021 i.e. during the recent surge of COVID cases in NCT of Delhi. A separate bed escalation report of Delhi Government Hospital was also shared with the participants.
- 8. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD gave an update on establishment of PSA plants in Delhi. It was informed that a total of 9 PSA plants with capacity of 11.56 MT have already been commissioned. Another 5 PSA plants with capacity of 3.24 MT will be commissioned by May end. 38 PSA plants with capacity of 35.5 MT will be commissioned by June end. 2 PSA plants with capacity of 12 MT will be installed and commissioned by the July end. On LMO storage tanks, it was informed that in addition, three LMO storage tanks, with capacity of 171 MT are likely to reach

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Delhi by 31st May, 2021 and two more LMO storage tanks with 100 MT capacity are likely to be reach Delhi by 10th June, 2021. On supply of medical oxygen, it was informed that as per Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Order dated 23.05.2021, GNCT of Delhi has been allocated 400 MT oxygen from 7 manufacturers / suppliers. Average quantity of medical oxygen received in the last 10 days has been 332.56 MT.

- 9. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD also presented data on availability of drugs such as Remdesivir & Tocilizumab injections. Total supply of Remdesivir injection till date has been 2,24,497 out of those 1,92,856 have been provided to the hospitals and balance stock is available with the stockists in NCT of Delhi. Demand for the injections have decreased and there is no shortage with the hospitals now. On Tocilizumab injections, it was informed that presently the demand has receded but demand supply gap persists as M/s Cipla Limited is the sole importer of this drug in India and allocations are made by the Government of India.
- 10. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD also informed that drug related enforcement activities were undertaken when reports of non-availability and hoardings of essential drugs were received. From 21st April, 2021 till 26th May, 2021 432 inspections were conducted across Delhi. 25 drug licenses were suspended across Delhi on account of non-compliance with Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 between 17 to 21st May, 2021 and action against another 12 more licenses is under process.
- 11. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD also informed that COVID patients in Home Isolation are distributed Covid Care Kits and Oximeters and in cases who are not fit for Home Isolation necessary action is taken by the districts as per protocol of MOHFW. 1031 Helpline has been strengthened and about 1500 to 2000 calls are received and responded daily with no waiting time, as phone lines have been increased to 200 and Call Center Executives increased to 60.
- 12. During the recent surge of COVID cases enforcement activities and number of challans issued were substantially increased. In February, 2021 month 23,151 challans issued which increased to 69,956 in March and 1,50,273 in April, 2021. Till 26th May, 2021 another 1,14,759 challans have been issued.
- 13. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD has also informed that as part of efforts to curb Covid-19 infections, Govt. of NCT of Delhi has setup an Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) at NDMC (HQ) on 15.05.2021, where all types of Covid related data on hospitals, oxygen, vaccination and other aspects of COVID management will be collected, collated and analysed on a real time

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basis. This will enable quick and informed decision-making for the policy makers.

- 14. On vaccination, Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD informed that Vaccination capacity has been increased to 2 lac doses with 600+ facilities. The current functional capacity as on 25.05.2021 is at 482 facilities, 998 session sites, 97800 capacity. A total of 51.89 lakh doses of vaccinations have been carried out, comprising a total of 1st dose to 40.13 lakh and 2nd dose vaccination to 11.76 lakh as on 25.05.2021. Total vaccine doses received for 45 years plus till 25th May, 2021 are 47.44 lakh doses out of that 44.17 lakh doses have been consumed and total vaccine doses stock left 3.27 lakh doses (3.14-Covishield & 0.13 Covaxin) as on 25.05.2021. Total vaccine doses received for 18 years to 44 years till 25th May, 2021 are 8.17 lakh doses out of that 8.12 lakh doses have been consumed. Further, Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD informed that 3 drive through vaccination sites have also been made operational. It was also informed that for the benefit of persons with disabilities, 1 dedicated vaccination sites in each district is also become operational.
- 15. Thereafter, Sh. Sanjeev Khirwar, Pr. Secretary (Revenue) / Divisional Commissioner, GNCTD gave a brief presentation before the participants for consideration of proposal for opening of the following two activities w.e.f. 31.05.2021, subject to compliance of unlock guidelines issued by the Govt. of India in May, 2020:
 - Operation of Manufacturing / Production units in Approved Industrial Areas within closed premises / boundaries.
 - ii. Construction activities where workers are employed within boundaries.
- 16. Prof. Balram Bhargava, DG, ICMR, congratulated the Delhi Government for having tackled well a very difficult situation. From a very high positivity rate of 36% in third week of April, 2021 to present positivity rate of 1.45% is really good progress. He stressed that testing is important and it should be continued. He suggested that unlock activity should be gradual and staggered over a period of time. He emphasized that vaccination coverage for the prioritized categories should be around 70%. He reminded that Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) must be carried out vigorously as positivity ratio is not yet below 5% in the NCR region. Lockdown measures have proved to be effective. He reminded that London had a lockdown of 3 months, therefore, we have still some window to continue it for some more time. On vaccination, Prof. Balram Bhargava, DG, ICMR recalled that India is among the five countries which are producing vaccine and everyone will be vaccinated by December, 2021.

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- 17. Dr. Guleria, Director, AIIMS suggested only a gradual unlocking of activities. He stressed that maximum surveillance and aggressive testing in hot-spots areas. He also referred to the higher mortality rate in Delhi during current surge of Covid-19 cases and suggested that Death Audit may be carried out so as to ascertain possible causes for so many deaths. Dr. Guleria, Director, AIIMS again emphasized continued enforcement of Covid Appropriate Behaviour by the community at large & advised that lessons learnt from last 2 waves should be kept in mind.
- 18. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, Niti Aayog reflected and mentioned that restrictive actions were taken somewhat belatedly. This allowed patient load to increase on the health infrastructure in Delhi. The capacity breach should not be allowed to go beyond a point yet he complimented the Delhi Government for a good response in a difficult situation. He reminded that unlock activity will lead to increase in cases and hence suggested slow and cautious relaxations. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, Niti Aayog reiterated that virus keep on changing its behaviour and it is not easy to predict its future course. He suggested to immediately carryout sero-survey linked to genome sequencing and epidemiology. He advised that Delhi should use its own resources and should not be dependent on NCDC alone. He also mentioned that we should have a clear containment strategy, contact tracing & we can go for larger containment zones. He mentioned that Delhi has 1100 cases per million which is more than anywhere else in the world & even the west had seen 600 cases per million at peak.
 - 19. Dr. Sujit Kumar Singh, Director, NCDC commended the efforts of Delhi Government and appreciated the imposition of lockdown. The imposition of lockdown from 19th April, 2021 provided impetus to Covid Appropriate Behaviour among people. He mentioned that this mutant virus was 50% more transmissible and therefore the incidence of rapid rise in cases in NCT of Delhi. Only restrictive and lockdown measure alongwith Covid Appropriate Behaviour by the community has worked and brought the cases down. He suggested watch on hospital admissions and mention that the epidemiological investigation on hospital admissions should be carried out & any identifiable increasing trend in trajectory should guide lockdown/unlockdown.
 - 20. Dr. P. Ravindran, Addl. DDG (DGHS) & Director, EMR, MoHFW, GoI advised that no opening of activities should be allowed where positivity rate was more than 5%. If construction activities are going to be allowed migrant labour will be attracted and Rapid Antigen test (RAT) of all should be carried out. Dr. Ravindran, Addl. DDG (DGHS) & Director, EMR, MoHFW, GoI emphasized that containment zones should be strengthened and do not allow any coming up of hot-spots and micro level analysis should be carried out through NCDC. On the

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- 3rd wave, he mentioned that he expected that it would come in February/ March next year and we have 7-8 months to improve our preparedness level.
- 21. Sh. Krishna Vatsa, Member, NDMA recalled that last 2 months were very difficult and traumatic for Delhi. He advised an honest assessment of Covid-19 cases which will help understand the reasons for rapid rise in cases and large number of deaths. He suggested that this initiative should come from the government itself and information should be shared with the general public. He emphasized psycho social counseling and NDMA, GoI will support in this endevour. On vaccination, he stated that there should be a positive communication about it though bottlenecks are there. He advised that vulnerable groups should be identified and vaccinated.
- 22. The Commissioner of Police, Delhi referred to the proposal of opening in-situ construction activities that are to be allowed. He said that as relaxations take place decline in Covid Appropriate Behaviour happens. Strict prosecution is not liked by people and is often questioned. Non-coercive measures are being applied but with little results. He suggested that written orders be issued on spacing out of shops in subzi mandis so that enforcement becomes easy and uniform. Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi directed that the issue be discussed with Commissioner of Police, Delhi and work out a solution.
- 23. The Chief Secretary (In charge), Delhi stated that the list of potential hot spots should be submitted by District Magistrates and district DCPs to the Divisional Commissioner, Delhi. He further stated that necessary and concerted action should also be taken by District Administration to ensure that the COVID-19 virus does not spread in these hot spots areas after the curfew is lifted.
- 24. Hon'ble Chief Minister, Delhi agreed that proposal for allowing the opening of two activities as presented by the Pr. Secretary (Revenue) / Divisional Commissioner, GNCTD be allowed. Hon'ble CM, Delhi also referred to the NDMA guidelines which have been received only yesterday evening where objective criteria for opening of various activities have been given. This will be discussed and further view on unlocking of other activities will be taken up. Hon'ble CM, Delhi also spoke about the vaccination and said that vaccination is the only remedy and asked Dr. Balram Bhargava, DG, ICMR as to how much vaccine would be available to GNCT of Delhi in June and July, 2021. It was suggested that information on this should be asked from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India in this regard. It was decided that an appropriate communication should be made to MOHFW.
- 25. Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi while acknowledging the efforts made by all officers, doctors, health care workers etc. during the recent surge in COVID 19, emphasized that constant vigil needs to be maintained including strict

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adherence of Covid Appropriate Behaviour by all through community engagement and appropriate enforcement measures . Hon'ble LG emphasised that the Health Department must ensure dissemination of information to the public on a real time basis relating to Containment Zones ,availability of beds, testing etc. Further DDMA orders regarding mandatory display of stocks and prices of drugs and equipment related to COVID should be strictly enforced. Hon'ble LG emphasised that an effective system should be put in place across hospitals both government and private in Delhi for proper screening, diagnosis, reporting, treatment of the Black Fungus disease including availability of essential drugs and health care facilities in accordance with the protocol and guidelines in place on the subject as issued by MoHFW,GOI/ICMR. The time lines fixed for setting up of oxygen plants in hospitals and other related infrastructure should be strictly monitored and supervised .Hon'ble LG emphasised that the strategy of test, treat and track to contain COVID-19 should continue in accordance with the advise of the Experts.

- 26. In the meeting, the members of the authority approved the proposal for opening of the following two activities w.e.f. 31.05.2021, subject to strict compliance of certain directives to be issued in this regard:
 - Operations of Manufacturing / Production units within closed premises in Approved Industrial Areas.
 - ii) Construction activities within their work sites.

The following directives/guidelines shall be applicable for aforesaid activities:

- i. Only asymptomatic workers and employees will be allowed at workplace.
- ii. Staggering of work / business hours will be followed at workplace in order to ensure proper social distancing between workers, adequate gaps between shifts, staggering the lunch breaks of staff etc.
- iii. COVID Appropriate Behaviour shall be strictly followed by all workers / employees at workplace viz. wearing of face masks, maintaining social distancing, no spitting at public place, no consumption of Pan, Gutkha, Tobacco and Liquor at work place.
- iv. Provision of thermal screening, hand wash and sanitizer preferably with touch free mechanism will be made at all entry and exist points and common areas.
- v. Frequent sanitization of entire work place, common facilities and all points which come into human contact e.g. door handles etc. shall be ensured, including between shifts.
- vi. The owners of manufacturing / production units, the owners / employers / contractors of construction activities will be responsible for strict

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compliance of aforesaid instructions / directives at work place. In case of any violation, concerned manufacturing / production unit or construction activity shall be closed, besides strict penal action would be taken against the violator(s) as well as the owner of manufacturing unit or owner/employer/contractor of construction work activity, as the case may be, under relevant Laws / Rules viz. Section 51 to 60 of Disaster Management Act, 2005, Section 188 of IPC and other applicable laws.

- vii. The movement of workers / employees shall be allowed only on the possession of e-pass (in soft or hard copy), which can be obtained by the owners / employers / contractors by submitting online application with details of workers / employees on the website www.delhi.gov.in.
- viii. All District Magistrates shall ensure random RT-PCR / RAT testing in sufficient numbers at these manufacturing / production units / construction sites on regular basis.
- ix. All District Magistrates and their counterpart district DCPs shall deploy Special Teams for regular inspection of these manufacturing / production units as well as construction sites for ensuring effective compliance of COVID Appropriate Behaviour by all workers / employees.
- 27. The members of Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) also resolved to ratify decisions / orders issued since the last meeting.

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

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

Dated: 11 6 2001

F.No.1(579)/DDMA(HQ)/Meeting/COVID/2021-22/11

Copy to:-

- Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi.
- Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, GNCTD.
- 3. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, Niti Aayog, Govt. of India.
- Secretary to the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi.
- 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 (Power)/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, 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)