

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

F.No.1(461)/DDMA(HQ)/Misc./COVID-19/Part file/2020/503 Dated: 20/12/2021

MINUTES OF THE 27th MEETING OF DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (DDMA) HELD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING ON 29.11.2021 (Wednesday) AT 12:00 NOON UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF HON'BLE LT. GOVERNOR, DELHI

1. The 27th meeting of Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) Chaired by Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi to discuss the COVID-19 pandemic situation in NCT of Delhi was held on November 29, 2021 through Video Conferencing.
2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed all the participants and requested the Chief Secretary, Delhi to start the proceedings.
3. 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 overview of COVID-19 pandemic in Delhi in respect of current situation & trend analysis of COVID cases, testing and containment measures, health system preparedness, enforcement of COVID appropriate behaviour, vaccination in GNCTD and status of genome sequencing. A snap-shot of COVID-19 cases in Delhi vis-a-vis India was presented as under:-

Summary	India	Delhi
Total Cases	3,45,63,749	14,40,807
Total recovered/discharged/migrated	3,39,88,797	14,15,411
Total active Cases	1,07,019	301
Total number of deaths	4,67,933	25,095
Case Fatality Rate (in %)	1.35	1.74
Recovery Rate (in %)	98.34	98.24
Avg. Growth Rate	0.026%	0.0020%
Total Tests Done	63,82,47,889	3,07,12,160
Tests per million	4,72,077	16,16,429

4. It was stated that as far as testing in Delhi was concerned, it has been consistently ahead of the national average. A total of 16,16,429 tests per million of population have been carried out in Delhi compared to a national average of 4,72,077 tests per million population. Daily cases have remained in the range of 30-50 cases and as on 26.11.2021 there were only 301 active cases in GNCT of Delhi. Positivity ratio has been in the range of 0.05% to 0.10% or so over the last 30 days. The daily tests have remained high with an average of 82.28% being RT-PCR in the month of November, 2021. Monthly occupancy of bed capacity has been less than 2% of total bed capacity. Only 5 deaths have been reported in the month of November, 2021 and "Nil" deaths reported on most days of the month. Enforcement of Covid Appropriate Behaviour has been continuing both by District Administration and the Police.

5. On Genome Sequencing, Secretary (H&FW) informed that 7281 samples have been sent to NCDC, 1140 samples to ILBS and 135 samples to LNH. In most of the samples Delta/B.1.617.2 variant has been reported.

6. Thereafter, an overview of the status of the dedicated hospital beds capacity was shared. It was informed that out of 8968 dedicated Covid beds, 8825 were vacant, out of 8402 oxygenated beds, 8263 were vacant and out of 2791 ICU beds, 2760 were vacant as on 26.11.2021. Additional 6,800 ICU beds in semi permanent hospitals are being constructed. Additional 30,000 beds on scalable model have also been worked out.

7. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD also apprised about the stock position of important drugs. Presently there is no shortage of Covid drugs and sufficient stocks of all drugs are available in Delhi. Adequate buffer stock has also been created.

8. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD presented an update on establishment of PSA plants in Delhi. It was informed that a total 83 PSA Plants (57 Donor + 26 PM CARES) with total capacity of 100.30 MT are either installed or in the process of being commissioned. Total 67 PSA plants with capacity of 82.28 MT have already been commissioned. 4 PSA plants of with capacity of 5.33 MT will be commissioned by 5th December, 2021. 2 PSA plants with capacity of 2.88 MT will be commissioned by 15th December, 2021. 10 PSA plants with capacity of 11.61 MT will be commissioned by 31st December, 2021. She further gave an update about LMO storage tanks in which 8 tanks with combined capacity of 421 MT have been installed and 5 hospitals have received PESO license and in respect of 3 tanks, received pre-approval for grant of PESO license has been received. Further, 2 cryogenic bottling plants with capacity of 12.5 MT will be commissioned by 10th December, 2021.

9. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD informed that more than 2.25 crores of vaccine doses have been administered as on 28.11.2021. 1st dose has been administered

to 1.38 crores beneficiaries (93% of eligible population) and 2nd dose administered to 87 lakhs beneficiaries (59% of eligible population). Vaccination capacity of government centers has been around 3.0 lakh doses per day but daily 1,00,000 doses being administered in recent weeks. However, after Chhath Pooja vaccination efforts have been enhanced. Stock of vaccine as on 28.11.2021, was 53.49 lakh doses. It was also informed that a targeted approach under **"Har Ghar Dastak and No One Left Behind"** campaign is being implemented to reach the balance eligible beneficiaries. For this purpose identification, mobilization, camp mode, mobile teams, IEC campaign is being planned. As a possible next step to introduce mandatory 1st dose of Covid vaccination for entry into public places like public transport including Delhi Metro and DTC buses, shared cabs, cinema halls, sports stadiums, recreation centers, malls, religious places, public places, monuments, restaurants and other public venues including Government offices is also being considered by 15th December, 2021 and further mandatory 2nd dose for Covid vaccination for entry into public places by 31st March, 2022. Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, GNCTD also referred to the strategy adopted by countries where monetary incentives have been introduced like lottery, cash prizes or discounts linked to Covid vaccination. Many European countries have also adopted vaccine passport system that limits access to public venues for unvaccinated people.

10. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD also informed that WHO has classified the B.1.1.529 variant, detected in South Africa as a SARS-CoV-2 variant of concern. The epidemiological situation in South Africa has been characterized by three distinct peaks in reported cases, the latest of which was predominantly the Delta variant. However, in recent weeks, infections have increased steeply, coinciding with the detection of B.1.1.529 variant. The first known confirmed B.1.1.529 infection was from a specimen collected on 9 November, 2021. The variant has a large number of mutations, some of which are indeed a concern for all. Preliminary evidence suggests an increased risk of re-infection with this variant, as compared to other variant of concerns. The number of cases of this variant appears to be increasing in almost all provinces in South Africa. Six countries have shown the detectable presence of the new variant. Belgium, Israel, Botswana, Hong Kong, Zimbabwe and South Africa already have logged in cases. The Current SARS-CoV-2 PCR diagnostics continue to detect this variant.

11. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, Niti Aayog observed that the presentation of Health and Family Welfare Department, GNCT of Delhi has highlighted pertinent points. However, Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, Niti Aayog pointed out that we all are still in the process of learning the behaviour of the variant. Its behaviour could indeed impact public health system with reported higher transmissibility which could possibly ignite a new wave. He reiterated that answers to all these possibilities are still unknown. Whether the variant will make RNA vaccine ineffective or less effective is also not yet known but remains a possibility. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, Niti Aayog stated that current SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR diagnostics will continue to



detect this variant. He emphasized that a heightened response with quality testing has to be ensured. Testing and surveillance remains an important tool to prevent its further spread. All positive cases must be isolated and their contacts must be quarantined and should only be allowed to come out after a negative RT-PCR test report. Crowding at public places be controlled and there should not be any lowering of guard in ensuring Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) by people in general. A campaign on observation of Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) by people in general must be continued by the Administration.

12. Sh. Rajiv Bansal, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Govt. of India referred to the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India on International Arrivals. He stated that every passenger from Countries at Risk shall be tested for post arrival Covid-19 test. Such passengers will be required to wait till the results of the tests before leaving or taking any connecting flight. For passengers found positive, their samples would be sent to for Genome testing and all such passengers would be put in isolation and treated as per laid down procedure. The contacts of all such positive cases would have been kept under institutional quarantine or home quarantined by the State Governments under strict monitoring. Passengers excluding the countries at risk will be allowed to leave airport but shall be advised to self monitor themselves for 14 days. However, 5% passengers of all flights will be tested at random at the airport. Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation assured that we would ensure that all these guidelines are followed and requested for co-operation by Delhi Government.

Hon'ble Chief Minister, Delhi asked the Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Govt. of India whether banning of flights from countries of risk is being considered or not. Sh. Rajiv Bansal, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Govt. of India informed that only on 26.11.2021 (Friday), it was decided to resume commercial international flights from 15th December, 2021. He stated that a review meeting has been scheduled today evening and a decision in this regard would be communicated by way of another circular.

13. Dr. Sujit Kumar Singh, Director, NCDC observed that new variant of concern has spread to 13-14 countries. In tests, its viral load has been found to be very high. The hospitalizations have been trebled and there have been more cases in children and younger population. He emphasized that surveillance efforts be enhanced and early clusters must be identified. The new variant has been found to be very severe than delta variant.

14. Dr. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS observed that the new variant has a longer incubation period of about 10 days. Therefore, he emphasized that travel histories of even those not found positive must be taken and tests be done. He suggested that people must be encouraged to go for 2nd dose of vaccination as many people have not been taking it.

15. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi, GNCTD observed that situation as reported is worrying but suggestions given by the experts will be implemented in NCT of Delhi in right earnest. All necessary steps will be taken and will continue to interact with the experts for their advice.

16. The Chief Secretary of Delhi informed that ACS (Health & Family Welfare), GNCTD and Divisional Commissioner, Delhi will interact with Govt. of India and whatever arrangements are required at the airport will be made. This is how the Delhi Government has worked in the past and all necessary arrangements for testing, contact tracing and surveillance will be made at the airport.

17. In accordance with the advice of the experts, Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi advised to continue to strictly adhere to the Test, Track, Treat Strategy with special focus on Surveillance, isolation of positive cases, contact tracing and strict enforcement of Covid Appropriate Behaviour. The Health Department was advised to be in a state of preparedness and ensure adequate availability of beds, medicines, oxygen etc. to tackle any emergent situation that may arise. It was emphasized that the pace of vaccination should be enhanced for maximum coverage. In order to effectively tackle the emerging situation, Officials were advised to strictly enforce the guidelines for international arrivals as issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI in coordination with the Ministry of Civil Aviation, GoI. It was stressed that necessary institutional mechanism be put in place for rigorous surveillance of international passengers, isolation of positive cases, monitoring of person in-home quarantine, timely genome testing of positive samples and effective dissemination of evidence based information to avoid any panic.

18. 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.


(Kuldeep Singh Gangar)
Spl. CEO (DDMA)

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Copy to:-

1. Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi.
2. Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, GNCTD.
3. Secretary to the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi.
4. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog, GoI.
5. Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, GoI.

6. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Health, GNCTD.
7. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Revenue, GNCTD.
8. OSD to Chief Secretary, GNCTD.
9. ACS (Power), GNCT of Delhi.
10. General Officer Commanding (HQ), Delhi Cantt. Area, Delhi.
11. Commissioner of Police, GNCT of Delhi.
12. The Addl. Secretary (Policy and Plan), NDMA, Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI.
13. ACS (UD) & Director, Local Bodies, UD Department, Delhi Secretariat, Delhi.
14. ACS (Home) / State Nodal Officer, GNCTD.
15. ACS (H&FW), GNCTD.
16. Pr. Secretary (Revenue), GNCTD.
17. Prof. Balram Bhargava, DG-ICMR, Govt. of India.
18. Sh. Krishna Vatsa, Member NDMA.
19. Sh. Kamal Kishore, Member NDMA.
20. Dr. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS.
21. Dr. Sujit Kumar Singh, Director, NCDC.
21. Director, Education Department, GNCTD
22. SIO, NIC with the request to make necessary arrangement for Video Conferencing.



(Kuldeep Singh Gangar)
Spl. CEO (DDMA)