

**GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

F.No.1(579)/DDMA(HQ)/Meeting/COVID/2020-22/547

Dated: 14/11/2022

**MINUTES OF THE 29th MEETING OF DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY (DDMA) HELD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING ON
29.12.2021 (WEDNESDAY) AT 04:00 PM UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF
HON'BLE LT. GOVERNOR, DELHI**

1. The 29th 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 December 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 through a detailed presentation apprised the participants about the current situation of COVID-19 pandemic in NCT of Delhi. The presentation outlined the Management of Covid-19 situation in Delhi in respect of Current situation & Trend Analysis, Testing & positivity trends, Genome Sequencing, Health Systems Preparedness, Oxygen Preparedness, Availability of Covid Medicines, Vaccination and Issues for consideration before the members of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA). A snap-shot of COVID-19 cases in Delhi vis-a-vis India was presented as under:-

Summary	India	Delhi
Total Cases	3,47,99,691	14,43,683
Total recovered/discharged/migrated	3,42,43,945	14,17,288
Total active Cases	75,456	1289
Total number of deaths	4,80,290	25,106
Case Fatality Rate (in %)	1.38%	1.74%
Recovery Rate (in %)	98.40%	98.17%
Total Tests Done	67,40,78,531	3,24,47,831
Tests per million	4,98,578	17,07,780

4. It was stated that as far as testing in Delhi was concerned, it has consistently been ahead of the national average. A total of 17,07,780 tests per million of population have been carried out in Delhi compared to a national average of 4,98,578 tests per million population. However, in the last few days daily cases and active cases have increased to 496 & 1612 respectively as on

28.12.2021 and net positivity ratio has also increased to 0.89%. The daily tests of around 55000 have remained high with an average of 89.29% being RT-PCR tests in the month of December, 2021. In view of rising Covid / OMICRON cases, it has been advised to increase daily tests to over 70,000 tests per day but it was also emphasized that percentage of RTPCR and Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT) should be increased with ratio of 70:30 as per advisory of ICMR, GoI. The availability of RAT kits and distribution to the districts needs to be increased proportionately. Secretary, Health & Family Welfare, GNCTD informed that though the number of active cases have risen sharply in the last few days. However, as on 28.12.21, only 280 Covid beds have been occupied and out of those only 53 are ICU beds. Hon'ble CM desired to know the break-up of patients occupying ICU beds. DGHS informed that as on date, only 2 patients are admitted in Delhi Govt. hospitals, 15 are admitted in private hospitals and 36 in Central Government hospitals and out of all patients admitted only 19 are from Delhi.

At this stage, Pr. Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, GNCTD submitted that Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) has already been approved in the vide DDMA Order No.460 dated 08.08.2021 and hence GRAP order comes into force immediately as per levels described therein. Due to mandatory testing of international travellers from "Risk Countries" every positive case has been sent in the LNJP hospital. He also informed that clinical data of the hospitalized cases suggest that hospital care was not necessary in majority of the cases. Cases with Omicron variant have been increasing and it has become a dominant variant now, yet the occupancy in the hospitals has not increased. No abnormal increase in occupancy of ICU and ventilator beds have been either seen. Pr. Secretary (H&FW), reminded that GRAP levels were decided considering the severity of Delta cases and resultant pressures on medical services in Delhi. Omicron variant present a different scenario and as such, he requested the guidance of the experts.

5. On Genome Sequencing, Secretary (H&FW) informed that as per 125 samples analyzed at ILBS, 67 samples were detected with a variant of Omicron and 58 with Delta variant. Ratio of this comes to 54% Omicron and 46% Delta variant. Number of Omicron variant cases have only been 12 out of 80 samples analysed at LNH Hospital. NCDC analysed 263 samples and Omicron variant has been found in 101 cases. The trend of SARS-COV-2 Lineages in 468 reported cases has been found to be 31%, 38% and 30% in respect of Delta, Omicron and others respectively.

6. Thereafter, an overview of the status of the dedicated hospital Covid beds capacity as on 28.12.2021 was shared:-

Bed Capacity	28.12.2021		
	Total Capacity	Occupancy	Vacant
Dedicated Beds	8965	262 (2.92%)	8703 (97.07%)
Oxygenated Beds	8405	256 (3.04%)	8149 (96.95%)
ICU Beds	2769	27 (0.97%)	2742 (99.02%)
Ventilators	1379	15 (1.08%)	1364 (98.91%)

Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD also shared Covid beds escalation plan and informed that in case of need and emergency, 37,000 Covid beds would be available. 9803 in Delhi Government hospitals and MCD hospitals, 3775 in Govt. of India hospitals and 14,000 in Private hospitals. Out of these 10,594 would be Covid ICU beds, 2328 Covid Pediatric beds and 903 Covid pediatrics ICU beds.

7. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD informed the availability of Covid medicines in NCT of Delhi as under:

Availability of COVID medicines				
S. No.	Drug Name	Buffer Stock for 30 days	Available stocks with State / UT	Available for number of days
1.	Enoxaparin(60 mg./0.6ml)	445751	344618	23
2.	Methylprednisolone Sod. Succinate	159198	165684	31
3.	Dexamethasone Sodium Phosphate	318394	359974	34
4.	Remdesivir*	149507	121594	24
5.	Tocilizumab*	3322	343	3
6.	Amphotericin B*	39799	36014	27
7.	Posaconazole 300mg	4775	140	1
8.	Human Normal Immunoglobulin (IV-Ig) (5 gm in 100 ml)#	415	1459	105

8. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD presented an update on Medical Oxygen Infrastructure in Delhi. It was informed that out of total 98 PSA Plants with total capacity of 116.96 MT, 83 PSA plants have already been commissioned and 15 PSA plants will be commissioned by 20th January, 2022. It was also informed that as on 28.12.2021. LMO storage tanks capacity of 790 MT have been installed with buffer reserve of 442 MT and 6 tanks have received PESO clearance and 2 tanks pre license applications are under process. Oxygen capacity of 217 MT cylinders (with Medical institutions) and Cylinders Reserve of 6000 (D type)+ 9115 cylinders in possession of DTC has also been developed. Further, 2 cryogenic bottling plants with capacity of 12.5 MT have been installed, 1 has been commissioned and 1 would be commissioned by 31st December, 2021 with capacity to refill 1400 jumbo cylinders in 24 hours. It was also informed that order has been placed for 15 LMO tankers.

9. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD informed that district wise target population of 18 years + beneficiaries in Delhi are about 1.48 crores and 1st dose has been administered to 1,50,37,940 such beneficiaries and 2nd dose has been administered to 1,08,84,934. A total of more than 2,59,22,874 of vaccine doses have been administered as on 28th December, 2021 in Delhi. Stock of Covid vaccine as on 29th December, 2021, was 21.53 lakh doses (Covishield- 17.99 lakh doses, Covaxin-3.54 lakh doses).

As per Hon'ble PM's announcement, Covid vaccination of children between the age group of 15-18 will commence on 3rd January, 2022. As per RGI estimate, there are 10 lakhs children in Delhi. Secretary (H&FW) informed that Covaxin will be administered in existing Delhi Government hospitals and schools CVCs. The Health & Family Welfare Department, GNCT of Delhi would create exclusive Covaxin sessions in existing CVCs. As per Hon'ble PM's announcement, Precaution Dose for HCWs, FLWs and 60+ population with co-morbidities will begin from 10th January, 2022. Those HCWs, FLWs and 60+ beneficiaries would be eligible who has completed 9 months i.e. 39 weeks from the date of administration of 2nd dose of vaccination.

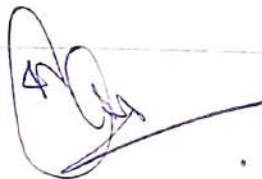
10. After the presentation, Chief Secretary, Delhi requested the views of experts.

At this stage, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Delhi observed that Omicron cases have been rising rapidly (number of cases stood 925 at 4:00 Pm today) and by end of 28.12.2021, this number could go upto 1500. If this trends continued, Delhi would have to declare complete Lockdown by 1st January, 2022. He reminded that hospitals beds are vacant and patients are recovering at homes. In such a scenario, he asked for the inputs of the experts on implementation of GRAP Order.

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Delhi also mentioned that in the event of Lockdown, all economic activities come to stand still and reverse migration of workers would commence. All round distress is caused among the daily wagers and labourers. This further causes financial constraints to the Government.

11. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, Niti Aayog, GoI recalled that when Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) was discussed in late July, assumptions on variant were different. Situation is different now and GRAP needs to be suitably altered. He suggested graded alteration and advised that situation does not warrant withdrawal of GRAP either. Delta variant is still prevalent. Impact of Omicron in older population needs to be assessed. Transmissibility of Omicron was almost 3 times higher than Delta variant. GRAP could be reworked keeping in view of overall bed occupancy. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, reminded that in United Kingdom, hospital system has been overwhelmed due to huge number of Omicron cases. Situation in India is different and we are dealing with mix of Delta and Omicron cases. Dr. V.K. Paul, advised that restrictions be placed thoughtfully keeping in view of crowds in markets and public places. Efforts should continue so that transmission does not spread.

12. Dr. Sujit Kumar Singh, Director, NCDC observed that Dr. V.K. Paul, has already highlighted all the important points. He stated that keeping a close watch on the Covid situation was necessary, as it was too early to assume severity of Omicron. Due to high transmissibility of Omicron, Delhi could possibly have 30000 cases by 08.01.2022. This could be the scenario in all Metro cities. He stressed the need to slow down gatherings in market and public places. He observed that once the number of cases rose to high levels then pace of transmission would be difficult to stop. He advised strict enforcement of Covid Appropriate Behaviour by the authorities.



13. Dr. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS stated that most of the points have been discussed. Large number of cases are asymptomatic, have mild symptoms with a lesser severity of disease. Dr. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS reminded that if infections spread, Health Care Workers would also be affected. As a result hospital services could also be affected. Hospitalization of elderly with co-morbidity have to be ensured by the authorities. He suggested activation of Institutional Isolation, as Home Isolation would not be effective in preventing spread of infection.

14. Dr. Samiran Panda, Director, ICMR agreed that GRAP, if needed, may be modified. He stressed the need to enforce Covid Appropriate Behaviour with the engagement of community. He stated that involvement of community was crucial in this regard.

15. Sh. Krishna Vatsa, Member NDMA, observed that Omicron variant has been spreading fast everywhere. It was therefore necessary to prepare well in advance. Public awareness campaign may be continued with emphasis on stricter compliance of Covid Appropriate Behaviour by the administration. It would be better if directions are issued to reduce social gatherings and attendance in offices.

16. Chief Secretary, Delhi summed up the deliberations as under:-

- a) Covid cases have been rising rapidly and have almost reached close to Level-2 of GRAP order. Delhi has put more restrictions than many other States. He emphasised that impact of restrictions imposed by the DDMA need be observed for a week. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India has advised restriction at 10% positivity or 40% bed occupancy. He observed that situation calls for dynamic analysis of data of cases before any relaxations are considered. Hospital cases in Delhi have risen only due to international passengers arrival protocol announced by the Government of India.
- b) District Magistrates and Police would continue increased enforcement action for ensuring Covid Appropriate Behaviour. Effective checking in market places and other crowded public places. Meetings and interaction with RWAs and MTAs must held at regularly for ensuring voluntary compliance of social distancing norms.
- c) Number of daily tests to be increased with standard percentage of 70 + 30 RT-PCR + RAT tests. Institutional Isolation centers to be operated with medical care.
- d) Review of situation by DDMA after a week.

17. After detailed deliberations, Hon'ble Lt. Governor emphasized stricter enforcement of Covid Appropriate Behaviour. He reiterated to continue with the Test, Track & Treat strategy with special focus on surveillance, delineation of containment zones, isolation of positive cases and close monitoring of home isolation cases so as to break the chain of transmission. He advised the Health Department to enhance the health preparedness to deal effectively with the emerging situation and to closely monitor bed occupancy besides strengthening

the home isolation strategy. He called upon all stakeholders for collective and concerted efforts to deal with the pandemic without lowering guard. It was decided to continue with the existing restrictions imposed recently in view of rising cases and to keep a close vigil on the ground situation.

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


(Kuldeep Singh Gangar)
Spl. CEO (DDMA)