



PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
(Research Unit)
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Government of India



**One Year of the World's Largest Vaccination Drive: Marking the first year
of COVID-19 Vaccination**

(Ministry of Health and Family Welfare)

January 16, 2022

“I salute each and every individual who is associated with the vaccination drive. Our vaccination programme has added great strength to the fight against COVID-19. It has led to saving lives and thus protecting livelihoods.”

- [Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#)

The first case of COVID-19 was detected in December 2019 in China and it soon spread across the World. The outbreak was declared a Public Health Emergency of International concern in January 2020, and a pandemic in March 2020.

The Government of India took proactive steps to respond to the pandemic and initiated the preparedness of the health system to respond to all aspects of COVID-19 management. India managed to maintain lowest positivity and mortality rates coupled with one of the highest recovery rates globally during the pandemic. The country's public health efforts were strongly supported by its research and development capacity in developing vaccines against COVID-19. The planning of the vaccination drive started well in advance based on scientific evidence and global best practices.

Scientific Guidance on Vaccination Programme:

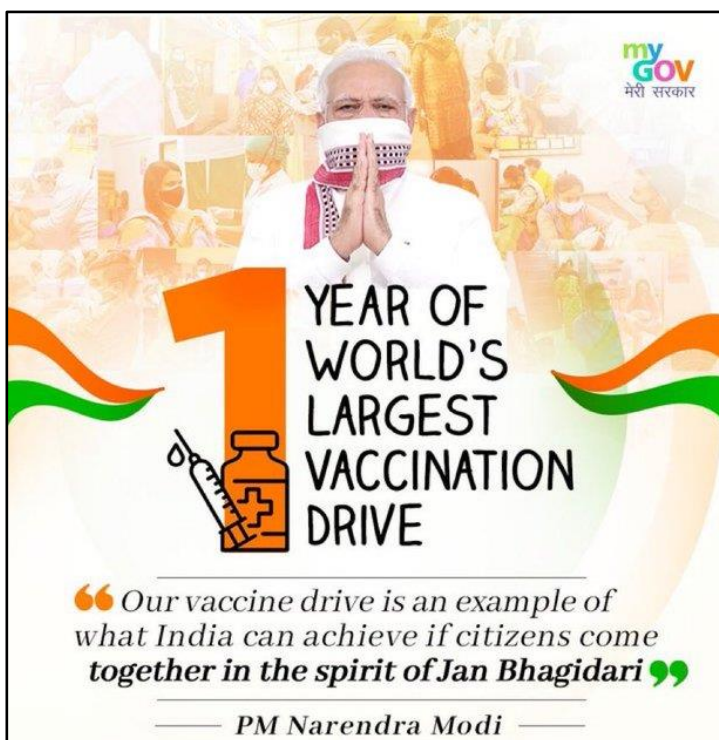
Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, vaccination programme was envisioned as a key component and the following steps were taken to combat COVID 19:

- ❖ [National Task Force for Focused Research on Corona Vaccine¹](#) was established in April 2020 to guide the process for coronavirus vaccine development, encouraging domestic Research & Development of Drugs, Diagnostics and Vaccines.

- ❖ [National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 \(NEGVAC\)²](#) was constituted in August 2020, to

formulate a comprehensive action plan for vaccine administration. NEGVAC reviews the scientific evidence and global best practices to provide guidance on all aspects of COVID-19 vaccination including prioritization of population groups, procurement and inventory management, vaccine selection, vaccine delivery and tracking mechanism etc.

- ❖ An Empowered Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (EGVAC) was also constituted in January 2021, to facilitate optimal utilization of technology so as to make COVID vaccination all inclusive, transparent, simple and scalable, headed by CEO, [National Health Authority³](#).
- ❖ [National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization \(NTAGI\)⁴](#), through its Standing Technical Sub-Committee (STSC) and COVID-19 Working Group, has been providing advice on technical matters with respect to COVID-19 vaccination like dosage interval, contraindications, vaccination of specific groups like pregnant & lactating women, AEFI surveillance, etc.



¹<https://static.psa.gov.in/psa-prod/publication/OM%20for%20focused%20Research%20on%20Corona%20Vaccines%20and%20other%20S%26T%20Issues.pdf>

²<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1645363>

³<https://pmjay.gov.in/about/nha>

⁴https://main.mohfw.gov.in/sites/default/files/CODE_OF_PRACTICE.pdf

COVID-19 Vaccines in India⁵

Prime Minister steered the domestic vaccine research and development programme from the front and ensured that the Indian vaccine manufacturers got a conducive environment for accelerated vaccine research, development and manufacture in the spirit of '[Aatmanirbhar Bharat](#)⁶' (Self-reliant India). He visited the vaccine manufacturing facilities and engaged with manufacturers as well as scientists to spur the programme for a timely launch in January 2021.



The domestic vaccine manufacturing industry of India has put in all efforts to develop and manufacture COVID-19 vaccines. The vaccines that have been granted permission for restricted use in emergency situation by the National Regulator, i.e. [Central Drugs Standard Control Organization](#)⁷ (CDSCO).

Three vaccines which are being used in the National COVID-19 Vaccination Programme are:

COVISHIELD⁸

The COVISHIELD (Oxford-AstraZeneca) vaccine is being produced by the Serum Institute of India locally. The COVISHIELD vaccination course consists of two separate doses of 0.5ml each. If a person receives one dose of the COVISHIELD vaccine, then the second dose should be administered between 4 to 12 weeks after the first dose. The COVISHIELD vaccine contains a weakened strain of a common cold virus (adenovirus) from chimpanzees.

⁵<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/COVIDVaccinationBooklet14SEP.pdf#:~:text=India%20started%20COVID%20D19,from%2016th%20January%202021.>

⁶<https://aatmanirbharbharat.mygov.in/>

⁷<https://cdsco.gov.in/opencms/opencms/en/Home/>

⁸https://www.seruminstitute.com/product_covishield.php

COVAXIN⁹

COVAXIN, India's indigenous COVID-19 vaccine by Bharat Biotech is developed in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) - National Institute of Virology (NIV). The vaccine is developed using Whole-Virion Inactivated Vero Cell derived platform technology. They contain dead viruses, incapable of infecting people but still able to instruct the immune system to mount a defensive reaction against an infection. It is a 2-dose vaccination regimen given 28 days apart.

SPUTNIK-V¹⁰

Russia's Sputnik V has been approved for emergency use in India from the Drugs Controller General of India (DGCI) and is being used in private hospitals.

India launches World's Largest Vaccination Drive¹¹

On 16 January, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched India's vaccination programme, which is the largest COVID-19 vaccination drive in the world.

There is provision to facilitate vaccination of



⁹ <https://www.bharatbiotech.com/covaxin.html>

¹⁰ <https://sputnikvaccine.com/about-vaccine/>

¹¹ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1689112>

persons without prescribed identity cards such as migrants, seers, nomads, refugees, destitute, homeless people, beggars etc. through special sessions where 100% vaccination is done through on-site registration by the vaccinator under a prescribed procedure.¹²

The first phase of vaccination, starting 16th January, 2021, focused on healthcare workers as a priority group. From 2nd February, 2021, frontline workers were added to the vaccination drive. Following this, people above 50 years and people between 45-60 years of age with comorbidities made eligible for vaccination, starting 1st March, 2021. As the second wave hit, the government proceeded to make everyone above 45 years of age eligible for vaccination from 1st April, 2021 and everyone above 18 years from 1st May, 2021. From 3rd January, 2022, after successful trials, vaccination for children from 15-18 years of age started. Booster dose for frontline and healthcare workers started from 10th January, 2022.

Major Milestones:

- India's Covid-19 vaccination drive was launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on [16 January 2021](#)¹³. This is the world's largest vaccination program covering the entire length and breadth of the country. The preparations had begun way back in

April 2020 with the establishment of the National Task Force for Focused Research on Corona Vaccine.

- The world's first ever DNA-based COVID-19 vaccine, Zycov-D, is 'Make-in-India'.

- Vaccination was made free for everyone above 18 years of age on 21st June, 2021. The average daily doses per day went from 18 lakh to 60 lakh, growing three times.¹⁴

- India exceeded the average daily vaccination of 18 major countries in the world, wherein the total vaccinated



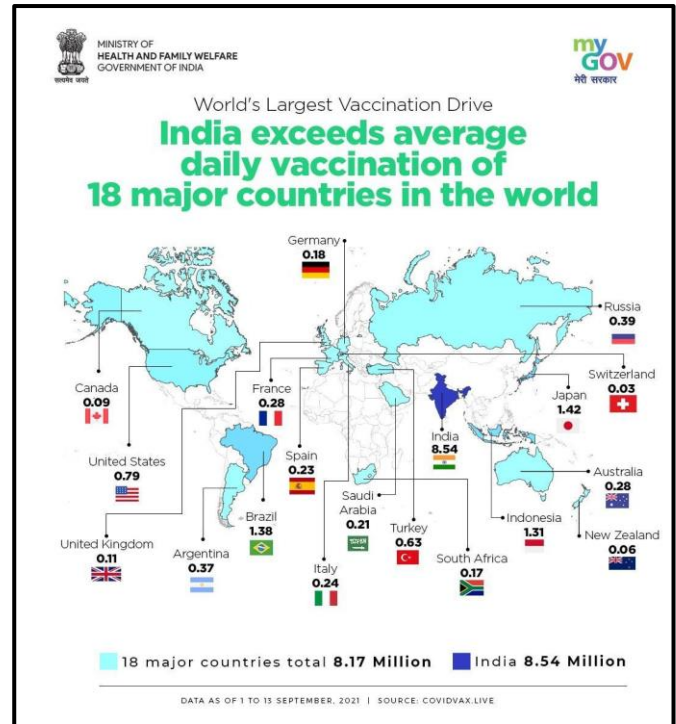
¹² <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1783810>

¹³ <https://www.indianembassywarsaw.gov.in/docs/1%20billion%20vaccination%20for%20website.pdf>

¹⁴ <https://twitter.com/mygovindia/status/1451102991453360128?s=20>

population of 18 major countries in the world was 8.17 million. Whereas, India alone had a vaccinated population of 8.54 million (as on 16th September, 2021).¹⁵

- In the world's fastest vaccination drive, India administered 100 crore doses in merely 9 months, on 21st October, 2021.
- India crossed the 150 crore doses milestone on 7th January, 2022.



1 YEAR OF WORLD'S LARGEST VACCINATION DRIVE

New Records for New India

- First time ever **roll out of vaccine** within 11 months of 1st case
- First-ever **DNA based** COVID-19 vaccine is 'Make in India'
- Largest digital vaccination drive through Co-WIN app - **99 crore registrations**

Data as on 15 Jan'22 | Source: MoHFW, cwin.gov.in

1 YEAR OF WORLD'S LARGEST VACCINATION DRIVE

New Records for New India

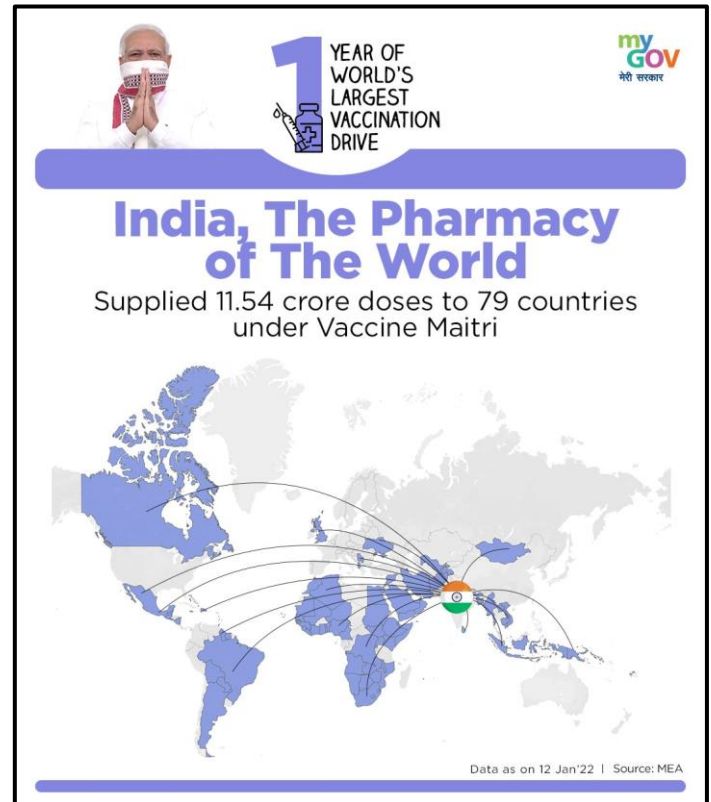
- Highest no. of citizens covered on Day 1 of the vaccination globally
- Highest **single-day vaccination** of 2.5 crore doses made on 17 Sep'21
- Fastest vaccination drive** of 156 crore doses within a year

Data as on 15 Jan'22 | Source: MoHFW, cwin.gov.in

¹⁵ <https://twitter.com/COVIDNewsByMIB/status/1438462446176387072?s=20>

India: Pharmacy of the World

The current vaccine production capacity of Covishield in India is approximately 25 crore doses per month, and that of Covaxin is around six crore doses per month.¹⁶ Further, India has time & again showcased its vaccine internationalism & provided a healing hand to the world to recover from COVID-19.¹⁷



Landmark figures:

- **India achieved a Landmark Milestone with highest ever Single-Day Vaccination Coverage of over 1 Crore doses**¹⁸

In a landmark achievement, India administered more than 1 Crore COVID-19 vaccine doses on 27th August 2021. With the administration of 1,03,35,290 vaccine doses in the 24 hours, India's COVID-19 vaccination coverage has surpassed the cumulative figure of 62.29Cr (62,29,89,134) as per provisional reports. This has been achieved through 67,19,042 sessions.

¹⁶ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1781267>

¹⁷ <https://twitter.com/mygovindia/status/1482548817354686464>

¹⁸ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1749789>

- **India's Cumulative COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage achieved a significant milestone of 50 Cr**¹⁹

India's COVID-19 vaccination coverage achieved a significant milestone of 50 Cr on 07 October 2021. Cumulatively, **50,10,09,609** vaccine doses were administered through 58,08,344 sessions, as per the provisional report till 7 am today. **49,55,138** vaccine doses were administered in the first 24 hours.

- **India achieved the major milestone of 'one billion' vaccinations**²⁰

In a historic achievement, the cumulative COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country surpassed the 100-crore milestone on 21st October 2021. In a tweet, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated the countrymen and expressed gratitude to the country's scientific community and health professionals for working towards achieving this stupendous feat.



Narendra Modi ✓
@narendramodi

India scripts history.

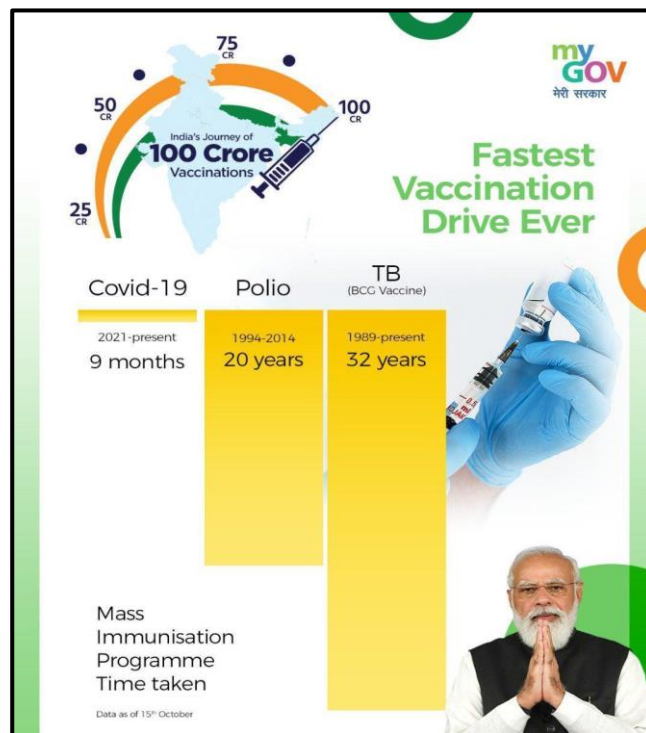
We are witnessing the triumph of Indian science, enterprise and collective spirit of 130 crore Indians.

Congrats India on crossing 100 crore vaccinations. Gratitude to our doctors, nurses and all those who worked to achieve this feat. [#VaccineCentury](#)

¹⁹ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1743457>

²⁰ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1765379>

Fastest vaccination drive ever:



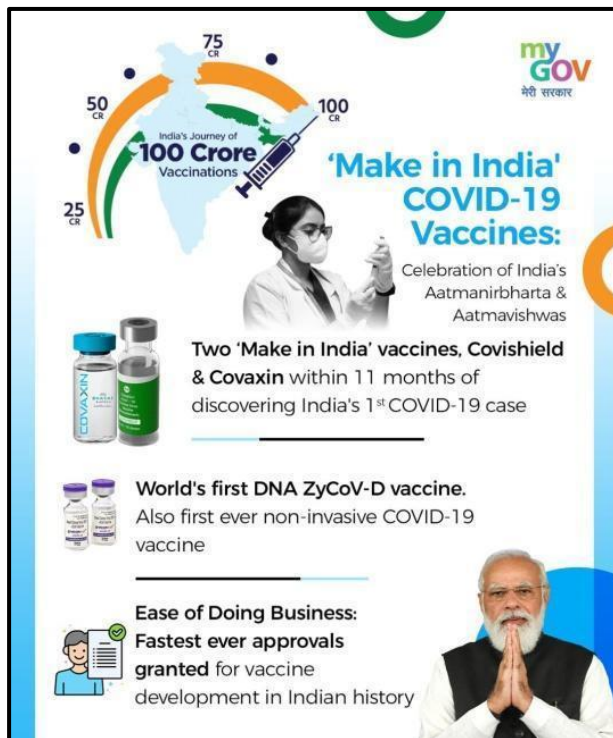
21

Highest doses of vaccination (Doses per Day):



²¹ <https://twitter.com/mygovindia/status/1451100114198556672?s=20>

- India prioritized vaccine development and launched 'Mission Covid Suraksha' to provide financial and technical support to indigenous vaccine manufacturers. This Mission is the force behind the world's first DNA-based COVID vaccine Zycov-D, developed by Zydus Cadila, which will facilitate vaccination of children above 12 years. The Mission also supported the capacity development of Bharat Biotech and provided support for infrastructure and technology development for other public sector manufacturers.

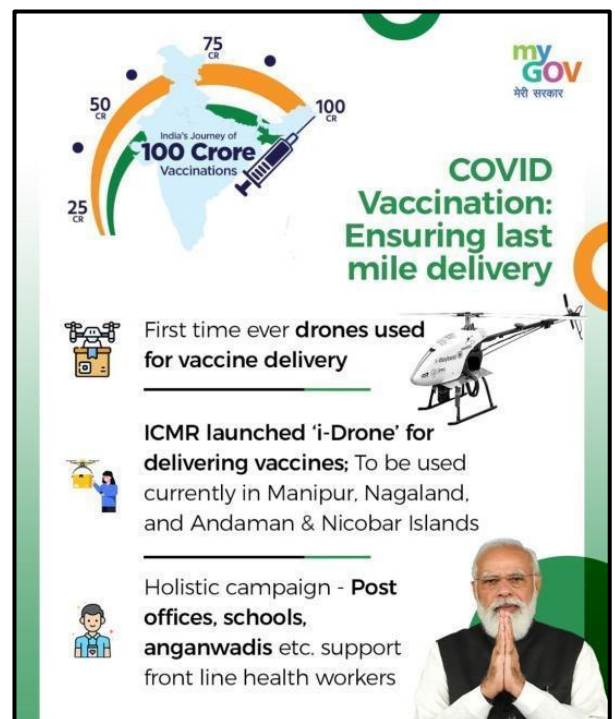


- Today, India is the only country that has developed multiple vaccines across multiple platforms (Bharat Biotech's COVAXIN uses an inactivated virus platform, Zycov-D is a DNA vaccine, Covishield a viral vector vaccine, Genovax is in the running for being India's first mRNA vaccine).

- India also developed a unique digital platform of CoWIN. The digital platform has made it possible to register beneficiaries,

schedule their vaccination, generate QR Code based vaccine certificates and capture their vaccination history. In addition, it has also kept track of the entire implementation process including daily coverage and vaccine requirements across various Indian States.

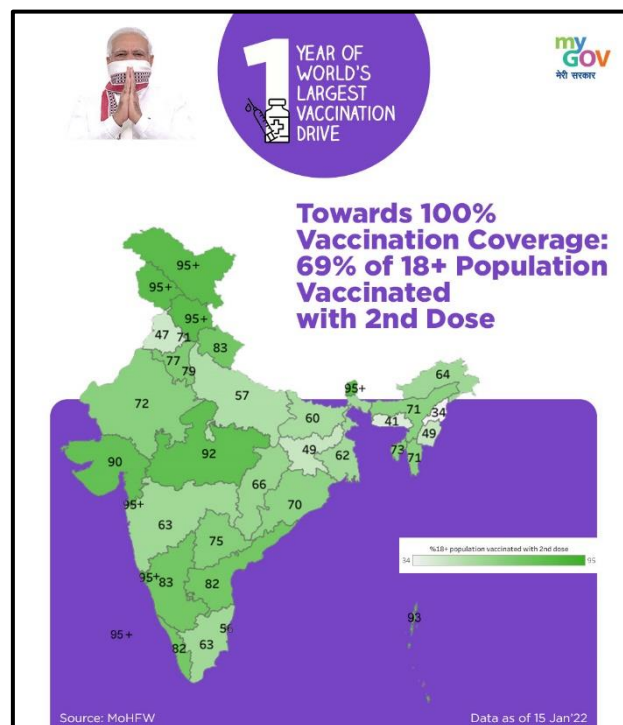
- In case of 1st dose coverage to the eligible population, [India has already covered 90% of the eligible population with 1st dose of vaccine against COVID-19.](#)²² While the USA



²² <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1786925>

has covered only 73.2% of the population, the UK has covered 75.9% of its population, France has covered 78.3% of its population, and Spain has covered 84.7% of its population.

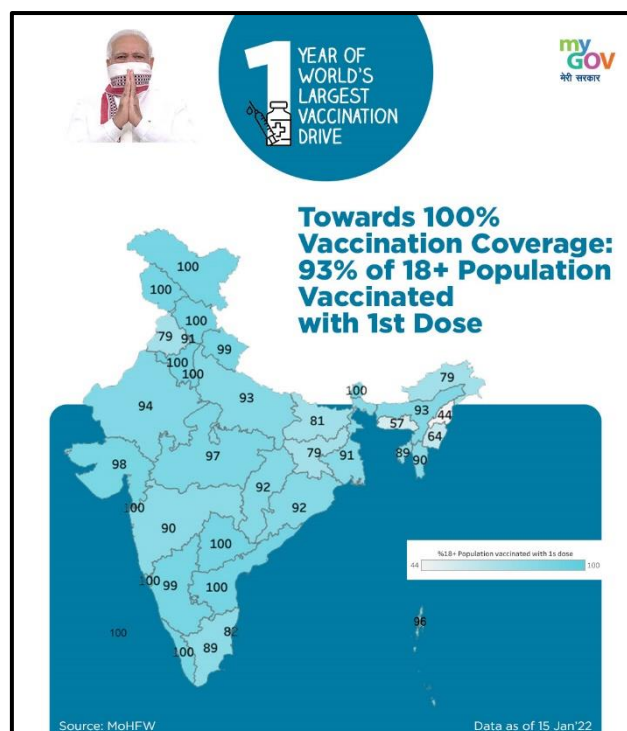
- For the 2nd dose of vaccines, India has covered over 65% of the eligible population with the 2nd dose of vaccine against COVID-19. While the USA has covered only 61.5% of its population, the UK has covered 69.5% of its population, France has covered 73.2% of its population, and Spain has covered 81% of its population.²³



- Further, over 11 states/UTs in India have already achieved 100% of 1st dose vaccination, while three States/UTs have already achieved 100% full vaccination (both 1st and 2nd dose) against COVID-19. Many States/UTs are soon expected to achieve 100% vaccination very quickly.²⁴

²³ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1786925>

²⁴ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1786925>



- A nation-wide COVID-19 vaccination campaign **Har Ghar Dastak** campaign was implemented from 3rd Nov 2021 which includes mobilization, awareness, vaccination campaign through reaching out to **all missed out** and **dropped out** eligible beneficiaries through House to House visit. This has also resulted in an increase of 1st dose coverage by 11.6% since introduction of the campaign. While the 2nd dose coverage increased by 28.9% in the same period.²⁵

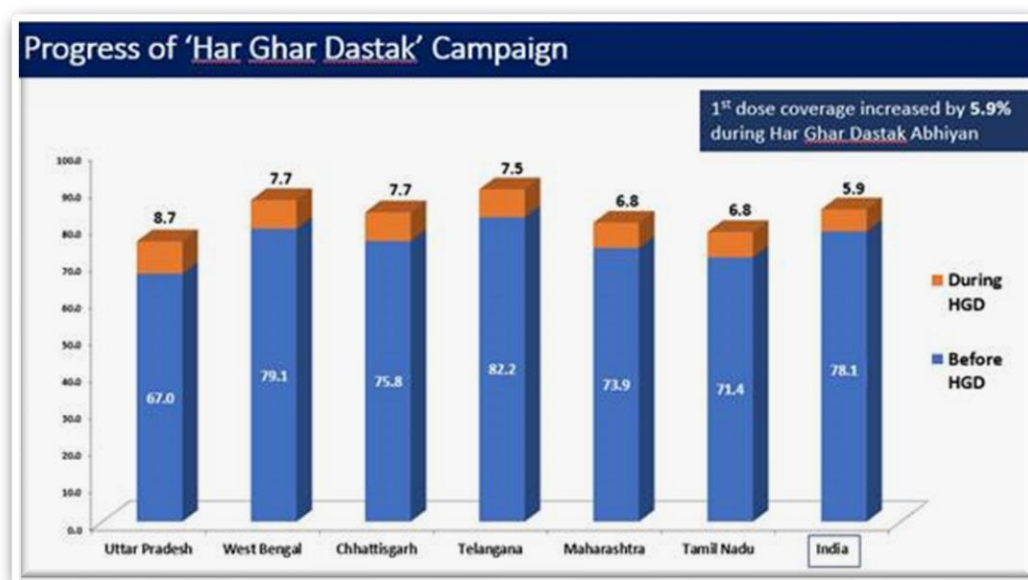
Best Practices under Har Ghar Dastak Campaign:

- Bihar: Ek Adhoora, Do se Poora Campaign - Mission 2nd Dose Campaign; Teeka Express; Teeka Wali Nav; and Motorbike Vaccination team.
- Himachal Pradesh: Suraksha ke rang naa honge phееke jab samay par lagenge dono teeke initiative; Bulawa toli.
- Maharashtra: Committee of Sarpanch, Talathi, Gram Sevak, ASHA, AWW, Teachers for mobilization.

²⁵ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1786925>

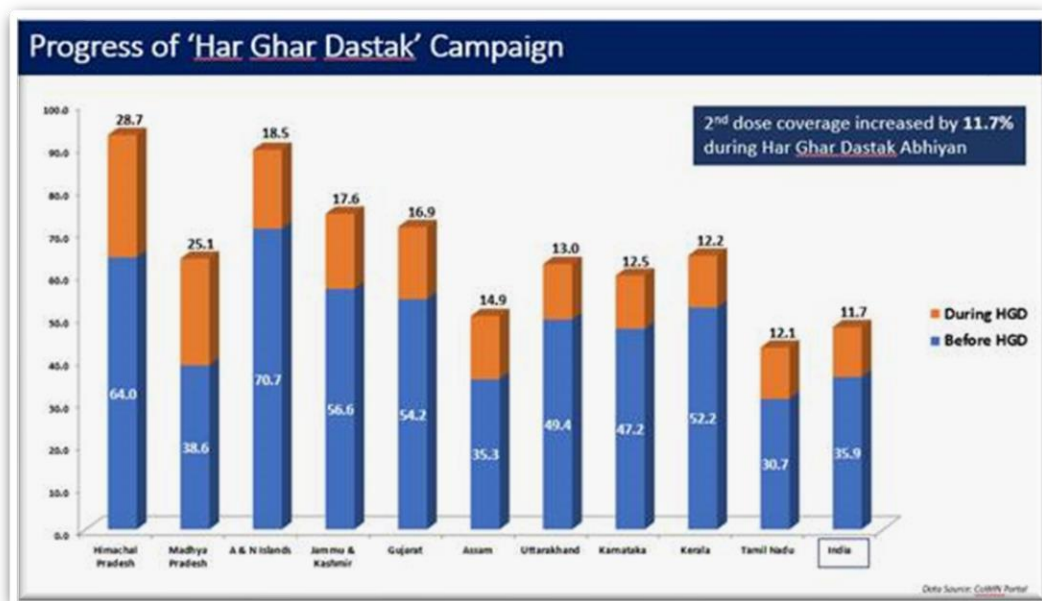
- Manipur: Religious Leaders Appealed for vaccination through recorded messages. These messages were shared through WhatsApp.
- Andhra Pradesh: Rewarding of best performing teams by District Civil Surgeon Kalaa Jathara, Dandora.
- Jharkhand: Nukkad Natak, Ramp & Wall writing.²⁶

1st dose coverage increased by 5.9% during Har Ghar Dastak Abhiyan (data till 30th Nov, 2021).



The **2nd dose coverage increased by 11.7%** during the campaign (data till 30th Nov, 2021).

²⁶ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1787361>



- Keeping in view the global surge of COVID-19 cases in December 2021, detection of Omicron variant which has been categorized as a Variant of Concern (VOC), scientific evidence, global best practices and the inputs/suggestions of “COVID-19 Working Group” of “National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI)” as well as of “Standing Technical Scientific Committee (STSC)” of NTAGI it was decided to further refine the scientific prioritization & coverage of COVID-19 vaccination of teenagers in the age-group of 15-18 years to be started from 3rd January 2022.

Co-WIN

The unique digital platform Co-WIN supports the COVID-19 vaccination initiative, helping the programme managers in registration and tracking of every beneficiary of COVID-19 vaccination and every vaccination event along with real time information on the available stocks of vaccine, their storage temperature, actual vaccination process, generation of digital certificates, etc.

Co-WIN app serves as the single source of truth for all data related to beneficiaries, vaccines and

“The CoWin platform is being made open source, available to any & all countries”

PM Modi at CoWIN Global Conclave

Co-WIN GLOBAL CONCLAVE
Winning Over Covid

- India adopted a completely digital approach while planning its vaccination strategy
- With nearly 200 million users, the 'Aarogya Setu' app is a readily available package for developers
- Through the CoWIN platform, India has administered 350 million doses of vaccines
- Digital approach is essential to fight COVID-19 & also helps in tracking the usage of vaccination and minimizes the wastage
- No nation, however powerful, can solve a challenge like this pandemic in isolation
- With our philosophy of One world, One health & One Earth, humanity will certainly overcome this pandemic

vaccination. This is also serving as a platform for registration and scheduling of appointments for vaccination, thus bringing in efficiency and order to the ongoing vaccination drive.

It promotes easy visualization, hassle free registration on a free of cost basis, thus maintaining equity and transparency in the system. There are options of both on-site and online registrations as well as vaccination on the Co-WIN system.

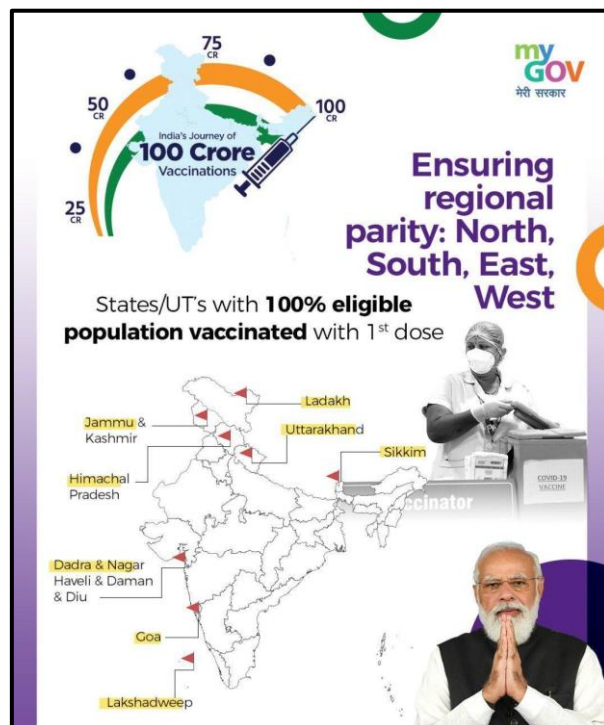
“Know Your Vaccination Status” with a New Feature enabled on CoWIN²⁷

A new feature “Know Your Vaccination Status” has been enabled on the CoWIN digital platform.

This will help to verify/retrieve a citizen’s vaccination status/details as per the authorised rights of the verifying entity by Co-WIN/MoHFW. The service could be utilized by a service provider (private entities like travel agencies, offices, employers, entertainment agencies etc or government agencies like IRCTC, Govt offices etc.) for facilitating a service requested by the citizen.

States that led the way in vaccination campaign:

- Himachal Pradesh became the first state to administer 1st dose of COVID vaccine to 100% adult population.²⁸
 - HP’s Kinnaur became the first fully vaccinated district in the country. The district achieved the target 50 days in advance.²⁹
 - iDrone for delivering vaccines is being used in Manipur, Nagaland and Andaman & Nicobar.³⁰
 - By 21st October, 2021, eight states and UTs had achieved 100% coverage of the first dose. Four states and UTs had more



²⁷ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1773490>

²⁸ <https://twitter.com/mygovindia/status/1451125201324822534?s=20>

²⁹ <https://twitter.com/mygovindia/status/1451125213798617092?s=20>

³⁰ <https://twitter.com/mygovindia/status/1451125207821815808?s=20>

than 90% coverage of the first dose.³¹

Under 18 Vaccination from 3rd January 2022³²

The countrywide vaccination drive was rolled out on 16th Jan 2021 and vaccination of the all eligible population above 18 years of age started from 1st May 2021. The next phase of COVID-19 vaccination has commenced for adolescents in the age group of 15-18 years.



In a tweet, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated the youth who got vaccinated and their parents. He also urged more youngsters to get vaccinated in the coming days.

Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya also congratulated the country on administering nearly 40 lakhs COVID-19 Vaccine Doses between 15-18 age group on the 1st day of vaccination drive for adolescents, on 3rd January, 2022.

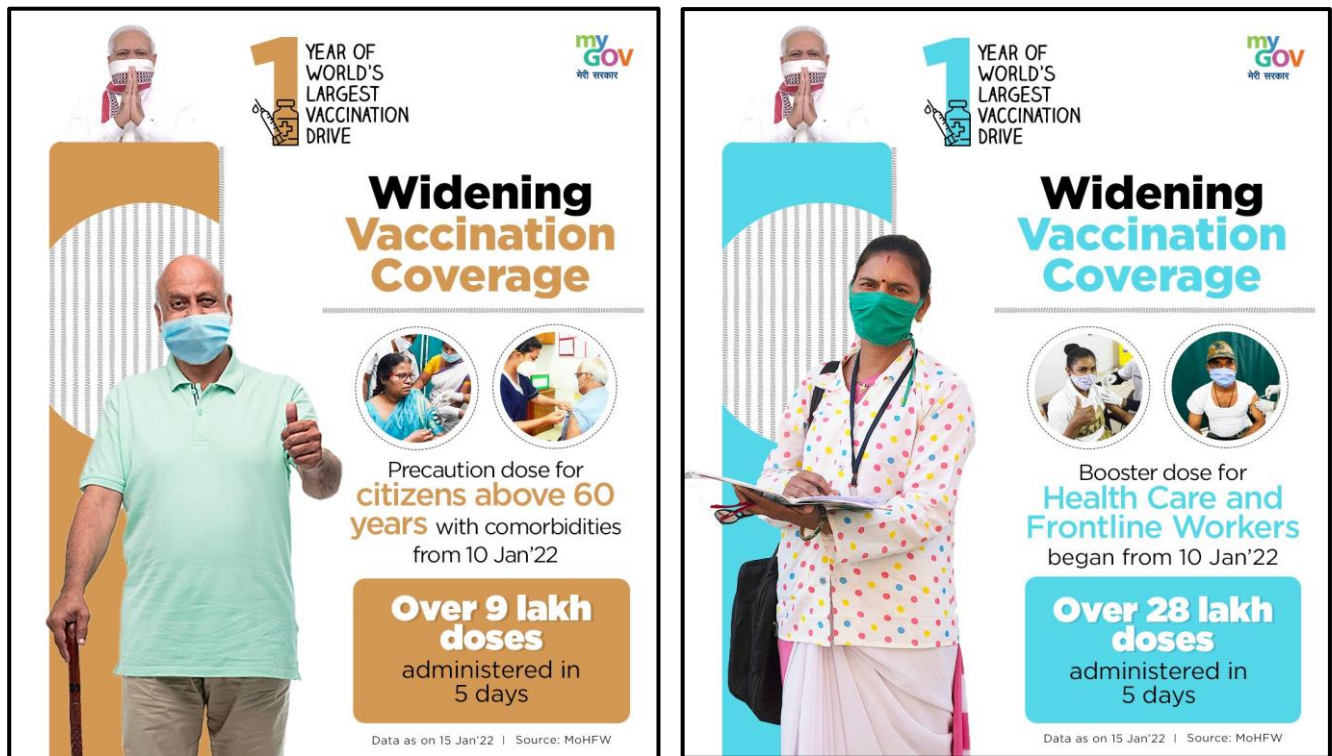
Precaution Dose³³

³¹ <https://twitter.com/mygovindia/status/1451104420897255424?s=20>

³² <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1787282>

³³ <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1788999>

On the first day of "Precaution Dose" for the identified categories of beneficiaries for COVID vaccination on 10 January 2022, more than 9 lakh doses were administered to the eligible age group. As on date 33,63,635 precaution doses have been given to the people of the country.



The updated figures on COVID-19 vaccination can be found [here](https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1790052).³⁴

³⁴ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1790052>

Video References:

1. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi addresses 76th session of UNGA
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7. <https://aatmanirbharbharat.mygov.in/>
8. <https://cdsco.gov.in/opencms/opencms/en/Home/>
9. <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/COVIDVaccinationBooklet14SEP.pdf#:~:text=India%20started%20COVID%2D19,from%2016th%20January%202021.>
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AG/HP/RC/AR/SK/DG