





'HAR GHAR DASTAK', EVERYONE PROTECTED

KINNAUR, HIMACHAL PRADESH



The beautiful land of Kinnaur leads the nation by becoming the first fully vaccinated District.

C OVID -19 vaccination in India was one of the largest vaccination drives ever taken up in the world. Despite its difficult terrain and inclement climatic conditions, District Kinnaur in Himachal Pradesh achieved the feat of becoming country's first District to fully vaccinate all adult eligible beneficiaries on 13th Oct, 2021. This resulted in the curbing of morbidity and mortality in the District due to COVID 19.

The feat accomplished by an efficient, time bound and effective approach has created a milestone for others to follow and learn from.



CHALLENGES FACED

Kinnaur is a tribal District with a very difficult terrain.

The region lacks infrastructure and human resource in health sector.

A COVID infected person in the place had to travel 7-8 hours via road to another District for proper treatment.

Vaccination drive initially was facility based which was not easily approachable for all beneficiaries.

Erratic internet signal in many places was resulting in difficulty in operating COWIN portal.

Number of vaccinators, verifiers, infrastructure and vehicles in the health department was proportionately very limited.

There was hesitancy among people because of lack of awareness.





WHEN THE TASK GOT TOUGH, THE TEAM BECAME TOUGHER

Vaccination team members walked for many hours in hilly routes to reach and vaccinate the beneficiaries even on mountain tops and orchards in far flung areas.

A manual record comprising the details of beneficiaries during session were kept. The session team then used to reach area with network connectivity and upload all the data online

Shortage of vaccinators were overcome by using Medical Officers, Health educators, Health supervisors as vaccinators.

To tackle vaccine hesitancy issue, local religious leaders and social influencers were involved in the drive. Elected representatives from Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) were given responsibility to prepare list of eligible beneficiaries and ensure their vaccination.

Hon'ble High Court of HP named it the "Kinnaur Model". The model was elaborated in detail by Deputy Commissioner and Chief Medical Officer to other Districts in Himachal Pradesh.