



# National COVID-19 Vaccination Programme

## Innovation (Centre)

This is the world's largest vaccination programme launched by Government of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. A multi-level institutional mechanism for governance was defined encompassing various expert bodies that focused on aspects of pandemic response such as vaccine development, planning for vaccine administration, utilization of information technology, vaccine safety surveillance etc. The structured governance helped efficient planning, scientific and evidence-based decision-making including prioritization of beneficiaries, and the successful implementation of the programme.

The challenge of supply chain and logistics management was dealt with by adopting a 'just-in-time' approach based on pro-rata consumption by States/Union Territories.

Vaccine wastage was minimized through micro-planning, regular reviews along with cross-learnings among States/Union Territories resulting in efficient utilization of each dose of vaccine. To ensure the last-mile availability of vaccines under the critical circumstances of the pandemic, alternate vaccine delivery mechanisms such as the use of helicopters, drones, boats, camels, etc. were also utilized.

Digital capabilities were leveraged through CoWIN (Winning over Covid) platform for facilitating a smooth vaccination roll out. It enabled real-time monitoring of the vaccination drive, vaccine availability, and utilization. It facilitated the beneficiaries in self-registration, advance booking of vaccination appointments as per each person's preferences for the choice of





vaccination centre, vaccination time slots, and vaccine type, grievance redressal mechanism, and availability of QR-based individual digital certificates. CoWIN was further integrated with the existing technology platforms viz Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) and SAFEVAC for real-time monitoring of vaccine stocks along with their storage temperature and reporting of Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI), respectively.

A comprehensive communication strategy was evolved to effectively address vaccine hesitancy and vaccine eagerness. This involved real-time dissemination of factual and

complete information while addressing the queries of the beneficiaries in a transparent manner.

Equitable access to COVID-19 vaccine to all citizens under the spirit of '*Sabko vaccine, muft vaccine*' was ensured through various strategic interventions such as 'Near-to-Home' Vaccination for the elderly, bed-ridden and differently-abled, flexi-timing vaccination centres and workplace vaccination for the daily-waged/working population, school-based vaccination to cover children aged 12-18 years, mobile vaccination teams to reach the unreached etc. Innovative campaigns such

as 'Har Ghar Dastak Teekakaran Abhiyaan' and 'COVID Vaccination-Amrit Mahotsava' were conducted to cover the missed-out and dropped-out beneficiaries through door-to-door vaccination and organized camps at various locations such as routes of public and private offices, religious yatra's, industrial establishments etc.

## Impact

- 221 crore (2.21 Billion) vaccine doses administered across India (i.e. 17% of the total Covid vaccine doses administered across the world)
- 97% of eligible population (aged  $\geq 12$  years) of India covered with atleast the first dose and 90% with both the doses.
- First 100 crore doses (1 Billion doses)

administered in 9 months and the next 100 crore doses (2 Billion doses landmark) were administered in the next 9 months.

- Effective reduction of Covid infections and increased confidence in the vaccination programme and the public health system.
- Each and every vaccination event digitally recorded on Co-WIN and individual QR-based certificates generated. Digi-Locker integrated with Co-WIN for data retrieval & storing the vaccination certificate.
- Temperature of vaccines maintained between  $+2^{\circ}$  C to  $+8^{\circ}$  C through e-VIN (Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network) at all times.
- Inter-Sectoral Coordination yielded in mitigating the effects of the pandemic and leveraged people's participation resulting in the unprecedented success of India's Covid vaccination programme.

