



DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

LEADING HEALTH, POPULATION AND FAMILY WELFARE STORIES OF THE DAY

Friday

20210419

India witnesses 2.73 lakh Covid cases

India witnesses 2.73 lakh Covid cases in a day (The Tribune: 20210419)

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/nation/india-witnesses-2-73-lakh-covid-cases-in-a-day-241207>

1,619 more deaths reported

India's total tally of Covid cases crossed 1.5 crore with a record single-day rise of 2,73,810 new coronavirus infections, while the active cases surpassed the 19-lakh mark, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Monday.

The total tally of Covid cases mounted to 1,50,61,919 and the death toll increased to 1,78,769 with a record 1,619 daily new fatalities, the data updated at 8 am showed.

Registering a steady increase for the 40th day in a row, the active cases have increased to 19,29,329 comprising 12.81 per cent of the total infections, while the national Covid recovery rate has dropped to 86 per cent.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 1,29,53,821, while the case fatality rate has further dropped to 1.19 per cent, the data stated.

According to the ICMR, 26,78,94,549 samples have been tested up to April 18 with 13,56,133 samples being tested on Sunday.

The 1,619 new fatalities include 503 from Maharashtra, 170 from Chhattisgarh, 161 from Delhi, 127 from Uttar Pradesh, 110 from Gujarat, 81 from Karnataka, 68 from Punjab, 66 from Madhya Pradesh, 50 from Jharkhand, 42 each from Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu, 29 from Haryana. A total of 1,78,769 deaths have been reported so far in the country, including 60,473 from Maharashtra, 13,351 from Karnataka, 13,113 from Tamil Nadu, 12,121 from Delhi,

10,568 from West Bengal, 9,830 from Uttar Pradesh, 7,902 from Punjab and 7,410 from Andhra Pradesh. PTI

Covid-19

To contain Covid, Maharashtra declares 6 states as places of sensitive origin (The Tribune: 20210419)

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/coronavirus/to-contain-covid-maharashtra-declares-6-states-as-places-of-sensitive-origin-241204>

Chief Secretary Sitaram Kunte in an order declares Kerala, Goa, Gujarat, Delhi and the NCR, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand as places of 'sensitive origin'

Struggling to contain the huge Covid surge, Maharashtra has declared six states, including Delhi and the NCR region, as places of "sensitive origin" in a bid to stop the influx of other variants of coronavirus into the state.

Maharashtra Chief Secretary Sitaram Kunte in an order issued on Sunday declared Kerala, Goa, Gujarat, Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR), Rajasthan and Uttarakhand as places of "sensitive origin".

As per the order, passengers travelling to Maharashtra from these places will need a negative RT-PCR report of test conducted within 48 hours of their train travel.

The decision has been taken to curb the transmission of coronavirus in Maharashtra and to "stop the influx of other COVID-19 virus variants into the state from other locations," said the order.

"These places will be considered as the places of sensitive origin from the date of this order till the time it is retracted or till COVID-19 stays notified as a disaster," it said.

On Sunday, Delhi recorded the biggest jump in its daily COVID-19 tally with 25,462 new cases, while the positivity rate shot up to 29.74 per cent.

Maharashtra, which is the worst-hit state in terms of the number of cases and deaths, on Sunday reported the highest number of 68,631 fresh infections while 503 patients died, as per the state health department.

With this, the cumulative caseload in Maharashtra mounted to 38,39,338 while the death toll reached 60,473.

The Maharashtra government also issued standard operating procedures (SOPs) for passengers from the six states of sensitive origin.

For passengers travelling in long-distance trains from these places, the railways shall share data of the trains that are scheduled to be running between these places and stations in Maharashtra with the local disaster management authorities, as per the SOPs.

The data of passengers will be shared with local disaster management authority each day, four hours before the departure from the origin of trains, the government said.

No unreserved tickets will be issued from these places to Maharashtra. The railways should ensure trains from the places of sensitive origin come to outer platforms where it is easier to conduct thermal screening (of passengers), the order said.

If the passengers are not carrying the RT-PCR negative report, they will have to undergo a rapid antigen test at the station, it added. PTI

DRDO

DRDO to reopen facility for Covid patients in Delhi today (The Tribune: 20210419)

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/coronavirus/drdo-to-reopen-facility-for-covid-patients-in-delhi-today-240976>

DRDO to reopen facility for Covid patients in Delhi today

Workers refill oxygen cylinders in Patna on Sunday. PTI

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has decided to reopen a medical facility near the Delhi airport to treat Covid-19 patients, officials said on Saturday.

They said the facility was expected to be made operational with 250 beds by Monday. Meanwhile, the armed forces have revisited the protocols for quarantining their own troops while the medical wings of the three forces have stepped up efforts to provide Covid-related facilities that can be used by the civilian authorities.

The protocols for quarantining have been revisited and all troops returning to their units after leave or temporary duty elsewhere will be required to undergo 14-day quarantine.

The forces are doing hundreds of RT-PCR tests every day to determine the prevalence of the virus among their troops. Ex-servicemen are also being tested and being provided facilities.

Also, the three forces will once again be providing beds and facilities to civilians. The DRDO's facility will have 500 beds eventually. Doctors and equipment like oxygen will be provided by the armed forces.

The forces will open their facilities for civilians in certain states, including Maharashtra and Gujarat.

When the virus had spread in February last year, the forces had created quarantine facilities for people returning from abroad. Meanwhile, the vaccination drive has been stepped up in the three armed forces – with a collective strength of all more than 16 lakh. Everyone will be vaccinated, irrespective of age of the person.

Hundreds of RT-PCR tests every day

Doctors and equipment like oxygen will be provided by the armed forces.

The forces will open their facilities for civilians in certain states, including Maharashtra and Gujarat.

The DRDO's facility will start with 250 beds and will go up to 500 beds in the next few days.

The forces are doing a hundred RT-PCR tests every day to determine prevalence of the virus among their troops. Ex-servicemen are also being tested.

Coronavirus

Coronavirus: Curfew in Delhi from tonight till next Monday morning (The Tribune: 20210419)

[https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/nation/coronavirus-curfew-in-delhi-from-tonight-till-next-monday-mo Coronavirus rning-241224](https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/nation/coronavirus-curfew-in-delhi-from-tonight-till-next-monday-mo-Coronavirus-rning-241224)

Coronavirus: Curfew in Delhi from tonight till next Monday morning

Delhi government has decided to impose curfew from tonight till next Monday morning as Covid cases continue to surge.

Delhi on Sunday recorded the biggest jump in its daily COVID-19 tally with 25,462 fresh cases, while the positivity rate shot up to 29.74 per cent -- meaning almost every third sample being tested in the city is turning out to be positive.

Delivering more bad news in an unprecedented public health crisis sweeping not just Delhi but the entire nation, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said less than 100 ICU beds are available in hospitals in the capital.

Authorities reported 161 deaths due to the disease in the last 24 hours. A day ago, 24,375 COVID-19 cases and 167 deaths were reported in the city.

Health Care Services

CM issues urgent appeal for beds as 1 in 3 samples is +ve (Hindustan Times: 20210419)

<https://epaper.hindustantimes.com/Home/ArticleView>

Ambulances carrying Covid-19 patients at a hospital in Gujarat's Rajkot on Sunday. ANI

Delhi on Sunday reported 25,462 Covid-19 cases, with about one in three samples testing positive, as chief minister Arvind Kejriwal made an urgent appeal to the Centre for more hospital beds to tackle the public health crisis, adding that the shortage of oxygen supply in the Capital was now an "emergency".

Delhi is the middle of its fourth Covid-19 wave, the worst to hit the national capital so far. On Sunday, the positivity rate was 29.74%, with 161 deaths being reported in the last 24 hours.

Fewer than 100 intensive care unit beds were available in the city of more than 20 million people, Kejriwal said, with widespread complaints about the lack of beds, oxygen cylinders and crucial drugs.

"The bigger worry is that in last 24 hours positivity rate has increased to around 30% from 24% ... The cases are rising very rapidly. The beds are filling fast," Kejriwal told a digital news briefing.

The test positivity rate – a ratio of the number of positive cases to total tests conducted, and a measure of the scale of an outbreak in the region – shot up from 0.59% over a month ago, to 29.74% on Sunday.

In a separate statement, the Delhi government said it informed the Centre about "the dire need of beds and oxygen" and beds were now being set up in schools.

Kejriwal said Delhi was facing an “acute shortage” of oxygen for Covid-19 patients and added that the quota of the city was diverted to other states. The remarks came hours after he wrote the letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

“Del facing acute shortage of oxygen. In view of sharply increasing cases, Del needs much more than normal supply. Rather than increasing supply, our normal supply has been sharply reduced and Delhi’s quota has been diverted to other states. OXYGEN HAS BECOME AN EMERGENCY IN DEL,” the chief minister tweeted on Sunday evening. He also wrote a letter to Union commerce and industries minister Piyush Goyal in this regard.

The Union minister told ANI: “State governments should keep demand (for medical oxygen) under control. Demand-side management is as important as supply-side management. Containing Covid-19 spread is the responsibility of state governments and they should fulfil this responsibility.”

Delhi, which has imposed a weekend curfew, is among the worst hit cities in India. The weekend curfew comes on top of 10pm-5am night curfew restrictions that are in place until April 30.

Chief minister Kejriwal and lieutenant governor Anil Baijal will hold a meeting with senior government officers on Monday over the Covid-19 situation in the national capital.

Nationwide, India reported 275,482 new cases on Sunday, taking the total number of cases past 15 million, second only to the US, which has reported more than 31 million infections. The country’s deaths from Covid-19 rose by a 1,622 to reach a total of 178,814.

At the briefing, Kejriwal said he urged Union home minister Amit Shah to increase the number of Covid-19 beds in central government hospitals and help with oxygen supply. “In the last 24 hours, Delhi recorded around 25,500 new cases, up from around 24,000 the previous day and 19,500 new cases the day before that,” he said.

“Cases are increasing at a fast rate and Covid-19 beds are getting occupied across the city. People are getting admitted in hospitals at an unprecedented rate. There is a major crisis of ICU beds. There are less than 100 ICU beds left in Delhi. We are facing a major shortage of oxygen, too. Last night, a private hospital told us that they almost ran into a disaster situation with a major shortage of oxygen supply,” the CM added.

“We are constantly in touch with the central government. We are getting a lot of help from them. We thank them for that. Yesterday (Saturday), I spoke with Union health minister Harsh Vardhan. He was informed about the situation. Today, I spoke to Union home minister Amit Shah over phone. I have told him that we need more beds. In Delhi, the central government hospitals collectively have around 10,000 beds, of which around 1,800 are currently reserved for Covid-19 patients. I have requested him (Shah) to reserve at least 7,000 beds for Covid-19. The situation in Delhi is deteriorating every second. I also requested that oxygen supply be provided to us immediately,” said Kejriwal.

He added that the Delhi government will be adding more than 6,000 additional Covid-19 beds with oxygen facilities in two-three days in locations that include health facilities set up at Yamuna Sports Complex, CWG village and premises of Radha Soami Satsang Beas. “We don’t know how many ICU beds we will be able to increase in such a short time. There are limitations. But we have seen that most patients primarily need high-flow oxygen. So, we are arranging more high-flow oxygen systems so that more beds can be converted into oxygen beds,” he said.

In his letter to the PM, Kejriwal wrote: “The Covid-19 situation in Delhi is extremely serious. There is a severe shortage of Covid-19 beds and oxygen supply. At our level we are doing everything that is possible. We need your help.”

As per the Delhi health department, 25,462 Covid-19 cases and 161 deaths were reported in the last 24 hours, taking the total active cases in Delhi to 74,941. The total positive cases in the city now stand at 853,460,, including 766,398 recoveries and 12,121 deaths.

As many as 85,620 samples were tested for the virus, including 56,015 RT-PCR/CBNAAT/TrueNath tests and 29,605 rapid antigen tests.

In the last 24 hours, 67,448 beneficiaries were vaccinated against the coronavirus. Around 54,306 received the first dose, while 13,142 received the second dose.

Covid-19: What you need to know today (Hindustan Times: 20210419)

<https://epaper.hindustantimes.com/Home/ArticleView>

Delhi recorded 24,375 new cases of the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) on Saturday at a positivity rate of 24.56%. No Indian city has registered more; actually no city anywhere in the world has, at least to this columnist’s knowledge. Sure, Los Angeles saw 29,174 cases on December 26, in the worst phase of the US’s debilitating third wave of the viral pandemic, but that was because of Christmas (it recorded no cases on December 25). Delhi, some may argue, isn’t a city, but a city-state, and technically a Union Territory with a legislature. Still, it does have all characteristics of a large city — a predominantly urban population and 11 administrative districts that are tightly connected. It may be almost twice as large as New York, but it is marginally smaller than London. And right now, it is reeling under a fourth wave of Covid-19 — not just in terms of cases, but deaths too. On Saturday, it saw 167 deaths, the highest to date. Sunday’s numbers are not in when this column is being written.

How bad is the city-state's fourth wave? According to Jamie Mullick, the keeper of HT's Covid-19 dashboard (from back in the time when the numbers were not so easily available), Delhi's fourth wave is actually as bad as the city's previous three waves combined (in terms of peak case levels). The seven-day average of cases on Saturday was higher than the highest seven-day averages witnessed during the previous three peaks — taken together (see the tables accompanying this piece).

The numbers reflect that — in the seven days to Saturday, Delhi recorded 13.4% of the total (827,998) cases it has seen since the beginning of the pandemic.

The seven-day average of deaths presents a healthier (I know, unfortunate choice of words) picture. It was 104 on Saturday, still lower than the peak seven-day average seen during the last wave.

It makes little sense to dwell on what went wrong and how we got here. All the usual suspects — from complacency to apathy to misplaced priorities to a complete disregard for science and data — ave been at play. But how do we get out of here?

Hindustan Times (after the country's first, bitter experience with a 68-day-long lockdown) has maintained that comprehensive lockdowns are avoidable except in two cases. One, the health infrastructure of a city or a region is under threat of being overwhelmed, or already is, and a further rise in cases would result in (I apologise for the choice of words in advance but this isn't the time to sugar-coat things) people dying on the streets. Two, the city or region continues to see a huge increase in cases, with a high positivity level (a clear indicator that things could get worse). On Saturday, Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal said at a press briefing that the city-state faces a shortage of oxygen, drugs, and ICU beds. Also on Saturday, Delhi's positivity rate touched 24.56% (which means one in four tests turned up positive). The seven-day average of the positivity rate (on Saturday) was 16.5% and rising fast. Delhi clearly needs a short sharp lockdown, one that includes curbs on inter-state movement of people (not goods) without good reason, perhaps even on trains and flights.

It can be argued that there will be an economic cost to all this, just as the local government likely reasoned a few weeks ago — a time when it made sense to impose some not-so-drastic restrictions — that there would be an economic cost to these, but the alternative is unimaginable. Indeed, Delhi, and India's management of the Covid-19 pandemic is a study in reactive management — we have always been a step behind the virus.

Delhi also needs to aggressively vaccinate people. A little over two million people have received one dose of a vaccine and around 440,000, both doses. That's around 12% of the city-state's population (more than many other cities and regions) that has some form of protection against severe infection and death (there's enough research to show that even one dose substantially enhances this protection). The question I would be asking, if I were in either the state or union government is simply this: how soon can we double this number? Because 25% protected against severe illness and death definitely sounds better.

To bolster health system

To bolster health system, city pvt hospitals to add 2,100 Covid beds (Hindustan Times: 20210419)

<https://epaper.hindustantimes.com/Home/ArticleView>

The popular Karol Bagh market wore a deserted look during the weekend curfew on Sunday.
SANCHIT KHANNA/HT PHOTO

The Delhi government on Sunday directed private hospitals and nursing homes that provide Covid patient care in the Capital to reserve at least 80% of their ward and ICU beds for Covid-19 patients. It also directed Delhi government-run Covid-19 hospitals to increase their bed capacities. The state government said the directives will increase the total Covid-19 ward beds by 3,875 and ICU beds by 1,126.

Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal and deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia also inspected a few hospitals and Covid Care Centres where beds will be added in the coming days.

In the first order on Sunday, the Delhi government noted that all 115 private hospitals and nursing homes catering to Covid patients are running at full capacity. "It has been observed that occupancy of Covid ICU beds and Covid ward beds have almost reached 100% and 90% respectively in the 115 private hospitals providing Covid-19 related treatment. Therefore, to further augment the bed capacity for Covid-19 patients, all nursing homes and private hospitals providing Covid related treatment

COVID-19 immunisation

The Hindu Explains | Why are adverse events after COVID-19 immunisation of concern, and what do experts say? (The Hindu: 20210419)

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/the-hindu-explains-why-are-adverse-events-after-covid-19-immunisation-of-concern-and-what-do-experts-say/article34347093.ece>

Why are we discovering this only now? Does the vaccine prevent more harm than it may cause?

The story so far: Reports of rare blood clots occurring after COVID-19 vaccination have led some countries to limit the usage of AstraZeneca's vaccine for certain categories of people, while other countries have paused the administration. More recently, the United States put the Johnson & Johnson vaccine on hold after reports of blood clots emerged.

Schizophrenia patients

Any facilities in and around Delhi for care of schizophrenia patients, HC asks AAP Govt, AIIMS (The Hindu: 20210419)

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/any-facilities-in-and-around-delhi-for-care-of-schizophrenia-patients-hc-asks-aap-govt-aiims/article34349351.ece>

The Delhi High Court has asked the AAP and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) whether there are any facilities in and around the national

New Cases (The Asian Age: 20210419)

<http://onlinepaper.asianage.com/articledetailpage.aspx?id=15538178>

■ 161 deaths, positivity rate 29.74%; almost every 3rd person undergoing test infected

Delhi sees biggest daily jump with 25,462 Covid-19 cases

AGE CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

Delhi on Sunday recorded the biggest jump in its daily Covid-19 tally with 25,462 fresh cases, while the positivity rate shot up to 29.74 per cent — meaning almost every third sample being tested in the city is turning out to be positive.

Delivering more bad news in an unprecedented public health crisis sweeping not just Delhi but the entire nation, chief minister Arvind Kejriwal said less than 100 ICU beds are available in hospitals in the capital.

Authorities reported 161 deaths due to the disease in the last 24 hours. A day ago, 24,375 Covid-19 cases and 167 deaths were reported in the city.

As the situation turned serious every passing hour, Kejriwal shot off letters to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Commerce and Industries Minister Piyush Goyal urging them to ramp up bed capacity in central government-run hospitals and to ensure "uninterrupted" supply of medical oxygen.

"The Covid situation has become very serious in Delhi. There is a huge shortage of beds and oxygen. I request that at least 7,000 out of 10,000 beds in central government hospitals in Delhi be reserved for Covid patients and oxygen be immediately provided in Delhi," he wrote in the letter to PM Modi.

Currently, only 1,800 of 10,000 central government hospital beds are reserved for Covid-19 patients, he said.

Kejriwal cited that less than 100 ICU beds are



Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal visits Covid care centre inside the CWG village in New Delhi on Sunday. — PTI

14-day quarantine for residents of Delhi returning from Kumbh Mela

New Delhi, April 18: Delhi residents who have visited the Kumbh Mela in Haridwar or are planning to do so will have to undergo compulsory 14-day home quarantine on their return and upload their details on an official website, the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) said in an order.

The ongoing Kumbh Mela has been at the centre of controversy amid fears that it could be a superspreader event with lakhs of devotees attending the event as the second wave of coronavirus

surges uncontrollably.

The order issued on Saturday said that those who visited Kumbh Mela from April 4 onwards or those who plan to do so till the end of the religious congregation at Haridwar on April 30 will have to upload their personal details, ID proof, and dates of departure and arrival back to Delhi at the website www.delhi.gov.in.

"All residents of Delhi, who have visited or are going to visit Kumbh 2021 at Haridwar, shall be required to compulsorily home quarantine themselves for 14 days on

arrival to Delhi," said the order issued by Vijay Dev, the chief secretary and chairperson of the executive committee of DDMA.

If a person returning from Haridwar Kumbh fails to upload his particulars on the Delhi government portal, he will be sent to institutional quarantine centre for 14 days by the district magistrates concerned, the order said.

Violators of the DDMA order will be liable to be proceeded against under the Disaster Management Act 2005 and other legal provisions, it added.

— PTI

available in Delhi now and said he spoke to Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday morning and stressed on the need of beds for Covid patients.

During a press conference, he said the Delhi

government in the next 2-3 days will come up with 6,000 beds with oxygen facility at Yamuna Sports Complex, Radha Soami Satsang Beas premises and schools. The Delhi government also directed

all nursing homes and private hospitals providing Covid-19-related treatment to reserve at least 80 per cent of their ICU and ward bed capacity for coronavirus patients.

According to the order,

the occupancy of ICU beds and ward beds for coronavirus patients in 115 private hospitals has reached "almost 100 per cent and 90 per cent" respectively.

Kejriwal said Delhi is facing "acute shortage" of oxygen for Covid-19 patients and alleged the quota of the city has been "diverted" to other states.

In his letter to Goyal, the Delhi CM urged him to ensure "uninterrupted" supply of 700MT of oxygen on daily basis and restore supply of 140MT of oxygen by a supplier INOX.

A private hospital in the city closely missed a tragedy in the city Saturday night due to shortage of oxygen, he said in an online briefing earlier on Sunday.

Kejriwal on Sunday visited Yamuna Sports Complex and Commonwealth Games Village where additional beds are being arranged for patients.

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, along with Health Minister Satyendar Jain, paid surprise visits to Satyawadi Raja Harish Chandra Hospital, Burari Hospital, Radha Soami Satsang Beas and a DRDO-run facility to take stock of medical infrastructure.

Sisodia said that 5,000 oxygen-supported beds are being readied at Radha Soami Satsang Beas. Of these, 500 oxygen beds will become available on Tuesday.

On the second day of the weekend curfew, most of the shops in the city, barring those selling essential items, medicines, vegetables and fruits, remained closed while roads wore a deserted look.

<http://onlinepaper.asianage.com/article/detailpage.aspx?id=15538179>

Govt guidelines advises to set up Covid facilities in gated residential complexes

AGE CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

The Delhi government issued guidelines on Sunday for gated residential complexes to set up Covid facilities amid alarming surge in coronavirus cases.

The Directorate General of Health Services also issued guidelines for the resident welfare associations (RWAs), residential societies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in prevention and control of Covid-19 transmission in gated residential complexes.

It said the Covid care facility would be set up using the resources of the RWAs/residential societies/NGOs and would be a dedicated health facility for management of suspected, asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic or very mild cases residing in that particular residential facility.

"No intermixing of suspect and confirmed cases

• A DOCTOR residing within the gated complex or that provided by the NGO will facilitate daily medical examination of the admitted patients. Also, a caregiver designated by the RWA or the NGO shall be identified to provide care to the patients.

shall be allowed," it said in the order.

The guidelines said these facilities would not be meant for elderly people, children below 10 years, pregnant/lactating women, patients with comorbidities, adding that such patients should be admitted to the appropriate Covid Care Health Facility.

"The community living in gated complexes may like to create small Covid Care Facility within the residential complex managed either by the RWAs/Residential Societies or in collaboration with an NGO. This may be more acceptable to the residents and will help

reduce the burden on existing facilities for managing suspect/presymptomatic/a symptomatic/very mild cases of Covid-19," the guidelines said.

A doctor residing within the gated complex or that provided by the NGO will facilitate daily medical examination of the admitted patients. Also, a caregiver designated by the RWA or the NGO shall be identified to provide care to the patients.

The guidelines said the Covid care facility would be a makeshift one and it may be set up in a community hall, centre, common utility area within the premises of residential complexes or empty flats that are isolated location-wise from the rest of the occupied dwelling.

The Covid care facility should have a separate entry/exit and a separate toilet for suspected and confirmed cases with proper cleaning and supplies. "Entrance to have mandatory hand hygiene (sanitis-

er dispenser) and thermal screening provisions for caregivers," it said, adding that the beds shall be placed with spatial separation of at least 1 metre from one another.

"Adequate natural room ventilation shall be ensured. Putting up exhaust fans to vent out air from the facility (to open area) is desirable. For air-conditioning/ventilation, the guidelines of CPWD shall be followed which inter-alia emphasises that the temperature setting of all air conditioning devices should be in the range of 24-30 degrees Celsius, relative humidity should be in the range of 40-70%, intake of fresh air should be as much as possible and cross ventilation should be adequate, it added.

For cleaning and disinfection, the guidelines said that used linen, pillow covers, towels could be kept in disposable bags for 72 hours and then washed at the patient's home using commonly used detergents.

Covid-2nd wave (The Asian Age: 20210419)

<http://onlinepaper.asianage.com/articledetailpage.aspx?id=15537208>

Vital shortages hit India amid Covid's 2nd wave

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call to the people concerned to use the entire national capacity in the production of vaccines against Covid-19 comes at a time when poor anticipation and planning coupled with a lackadaisical approach of the government he heads have started having a telling impact on the pandemic situation in the country. For more than a year, the world has been under the grip of the fear the micro-organism has unleashed, but the nation which the government and the Prime Minister have been tom-tomming as the pharmaceutical hub of the world is now facing a shortage of everything that the healthcare workers need to fight the virus and save lives — hospital beds, antiviral life-saving drugs, vaccine, oxygen, intensive care units and ventilators. This, despite the fact that the government has set up a dedicated fund — PM-Cares — to promote initiatives to fight the virus.

The nation has no idea whether the government was, like most people in India, thinking if the pandemic had vanished, given the very little effort it was seen to be taking to face an exigency like the one we are facing now. There was little or no extra investment made to augment healthcare infrastructure in the country in the

The government must invest in health infrastructure, ban gatherings and work with every institution, state or otherwise, to enforce Covid-appropriate behaviour

interregnum or to step up production capacities of the same materials, which we now face a shortage of. That the government has learnt little from the past is reflected from the fact that even the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, the national trade union belonging to the Sangh Parivar to which Mr Modi's BJP belongs, has cautioned about the reverse migration of guest workers from the towns and cities to the villages, in anticipation of another nationwide lockdown. It is stating the obvious that the government did not show as much alacrity as the guest workers did about

planning for the future in the face of a pandemic attack.

It must not also go unsaid that the government had been busy plucking the low hanging fruits from the beginning of the corona fight. It started with the premature show of gratitude to the healthcare fraternity even before they started the real fight. Even the Indian Air force was dragged into the farce of showering flower petals on them from the skies when, on earth, they were fighting the virus with their back to the wall, with little availability of infrastructure and consumables. The government missed no chance to advertise the world's largest vaccination programme with little idea about the number of people it will have to vaccinate or the quantity of vaccine it would require or how to produce and distribute the same. Today, the vaccine manufacturers are running pillar to post seeking financial help to augment production capacity but the government does not seem to understand it at all; we heard no firm and immediate commitment from the government till now.

But it's not all lost as yet — the government must launch massive investment programmes in healthcare infrastructure, put its foot down firmly and ban all social, religious and political gatherings that can turn superspreaders, and work with every institution, state or otherwise, to enforce Covid-appropriate behaviour. Every rupee, every action and every moment count now.

Pregnancy (New Kerala: 20210419)

<https://www.newkerala.com/news/2021/53807.htm>

Underweight, overweight women at recurrent pregnancy loss risk IANS | 9 hours ago London, April 18: Being underweight or overweight could significantly increase your risk of experiencing recurrent miscarriages, according to a study. The study, le-> View it-->

<https://www.newkerala.com/news/2021/53807.htm>

Covid vax 'less effective'(New Kerala: 20210419)

Covid vax 'less effective' in people with some blood cancer: Study IANS | 16 hours ago Jerusalem, April 18: The two-dose mRNA Covid-19 vaccine may be aless effective' in people undergoing treatment for certain types of blood cancers, researchers ha-> View it-->

<https://www.newkerala.com/news/2021/53768.htm>

Dental health (New Kerala: 20210419)

Study claims good dental health may help prevent heart infection from mouth bacteria ANI | 16 hours ago Washington, April 18: According to a new study, maintenance of good oral health is more important than the use of antibiotics in dental procedu-> View it-->

<https://www.newkerala.com/news/2021/53742.htm>

Vaccination (New Kerala: 20210419)

Susceptibility to Covid high immediately after vaccination IANS | 17 hours ago New Delhi, April 18: The susceptibility to Covid infections appears to be particularly high immediately after vaccination either due to lower immunity or due to unsafe b-> View it-->

<https://www.newkerala.com/news/2021/53713.htm>

Infection (Hindustan: 20210419)

https://epaper.livehindustan.com/imageview_772779_120848662_4_1_19-04-2021_0_i_1_sf.html

● रिकॉर्ड 25462 नए मरीज मिले, 161 लोगों की मौत ● जांच कराने वाला हर तीसरा व्यक्ति संक्रमित मिल रहा

दिल्ली की संक्रमण दर देश में सबसे तेज

नई दिल्ली | विश्व संवाददाता

कोरोना के कहर से दिल्ली कराहने लगी है। अस्पतालों में ऑक्सीजन-दवाओं की कमी के बीच संक्रमण दर 30 फीसदी तक पहुंच गई है। यानी जांच कराने वाला हर तीसरा व्यक्ति संक्रमित पाया जा रहा है। आंकड़े देखें तो अन्य राज्यों के मुकाबले दिल्लीवाले सबसे तेज गति से संक्रमण की चपेट में आ रहे हैं। मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल ने भी माना कि हालात बेहद खराब हो रहे हैं, तुरंत मदद की जरूरत है।

रिकॉर्ड संक्रमण दर : दिल्ली में रविवार को 25,462 लोगों में संक्रमण की पुष्टि हुई और 161 संक्रमितों की मौत हो गई। यहां 85 हजार से ज्यादा टेस्ट के बावजूद रिकॉर्ड 29.74% लोग संक्रमित मिले। चार दिन पहले यह दर 15.92% थी। देश के किसी भी राज्य में इतनी तेजी से संक्रमण दर नहीं बढ़ी है।

चिंताजनक क्यों: यह तेजी इसलिए चिंताजनक है क्योंकि एक हफ्ते से रात्रि कर्फ्यू लागू है। भीड़भरे आयोजनों पर रोक है, इसके बावजूद मरीज मिलने की दर कम होने की बजाय तेजी से बढ़ रही



दिल्ली का करोल बाग, जहां आम दिनों में भारी भीड़ रहती है, यहां रविवार को कार्फ्यू की छह से सप्ताह रहा। ● संविदा खन्ना

है। एक दिन पहले यह 20 फीसदी थी लेकिन अगले ही दिन इसमें छह फीसदी की वृद्धि दर्ज की गई। सक्रिय मरीजों की संख्या 74,941 तक पहुंच जाने से अस्पतालों में भीड़ बढ़ रही है, दवाओं

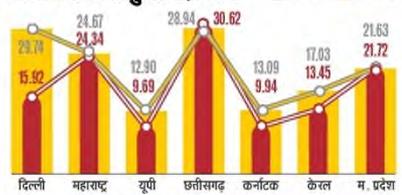
की कमी पड़ने लगी है। मुख्यमंत्री ने बताया कि सिर्फ 100 आईसोलेट बेड ही बचे हुए हैं और तेजी से यह भी भरते जा रहे हैं। रविवार को लेडी हार्डिंग अस्पताल में 100 स्वास्थ्यकर्मी भी

संक्रमित हो गए। उधर, स्वस्थ होने वालों की दर में लगातार गिरावट आ रही है। रविवार को यह 90% से नीचे चली गई। **बढ़ता रिकॉर्ड कर्फ्यू:** सरकार रिकॉर्ड कर्फ्यू को अगले हफ्ते के लिए बढ़ाने की

नए संक्रमित **2,71,204** | मौते **1570**

रविवार रात 12 बजे तक देशभर के आंकड़े

चार दिनों में दैनिक संक्रमण



स्रोत: कोविड 19 डेटा

संकट

तैयारी कर रही है। सोमवार को दिल्ली आपदा प्रबंधन प्राधिकरण की बैठक में इस पर मुहर लग सकती है।

➤ संक्रमण दर 16 फीसदी पृष्ठ 09

➤ घरों में कैद रहे लोग पृष्ठ 02

नगुने लेने में भी तीन दिन

दिल्ली में नगुने लेने में भी तैब को तीन दिन का समय लग रहा है। इससे भी संक्रमण बढ़ रहा।

Pregnancy (Hindustan: 20210419)

https://epaper.livehindustan.com/imageview_772781_118958816_4_1_19-04-2021_3_i_1_sf.html

सलाह

कोरोना काल में मां बनने जा रहीं तो खुद पर ज्यादा ध्यान दें



कोरोना से डरिए मत सावधान रहिए 06

संक्रमण के प्रति संवेदनशील बनाती है प्रेग्नेंसी

आईसीएमआर के मुताबिक गर्भावस्था में रोम-प्रतिरोधक क्षमता घटने से महिलाएं संक्रमण के प्रति ज्यादा संवेदनशील हो जाती हैं। दरअसल, गर्भ में पल रहा शिशु मां और पिता से बना एक नया अंग होता है। प्रतिरोधक क्षमता मजबूत होने पर शरीर इस शिशु को बाहरी तत्व समझ उसके खिलाफ काम कर सकता है। ऐसा न हो पाए, इन्हींलिए गर्भावस्था में प्रतिरोधक क्षमता कम हो जाती है। गर्भावस्था के 26वें से 28वें हफ्ते के बीच महिलाओं में संक्रमण का खतरा सबसे ज्यादा रहता है।

अप्रैल 2020 में प्रकाशित इंडियन काउंसिल ऑफ मेडिकल रिसर्च के अध्ययन में कहा गया था कि संक्रमित महिला गर्भवती शिशु में वायरस की वाहक बन सकती है। हालांकि, हर मामले में ऐसा हो, यह जरूरी नहीं। ऐसे में अगर आप कोरोनाकाल में मां बनने की सोच रही हैं तो संक्रमण से बचने को ज्यादा जतन करने होंगे।

जच्चा-बच्चा को खतरा 03

गुना बढ़ गए मृत शिशुओं के जन्म और प्रसव के दौरान मां की मृत के मामले जनवरी 2020 से 2021 के बीच

06 गुना बढ़े हुए एक्टॉपिक प्रेग्नेंसी के मामले में, इसमें भ्रूण महिला के गर्भाशय के बाहर विकसित होने लगता है (स्रोत : लॉसेट जर्नल में प्रकाशित शोध)

डिप्रेशन का दंश 72%

गर्भवती महिलाओं ने कोरोना काल में बेदनी-अनिद्रा सहित डिप्रेशन के अन्य लक्षणों से जूझने की बात स्वीकारी

34% महिलाएं कोरोनाकाल में मां बनने की योजना टालना चाहती हैं (स्रोत : मई 2020 में ब्रिटेन में हुआ सर्वे)

इलाज में दिक्कत, अवसाद का जोखिम भी ज्यादा

शोधकर्ताओं ने कहा, गर्भवती महिलाओं को कोई भी समस्या होने पर सही इलाज नहीं मिल पा रहा है। कुछ महिलाएं तो संक्रमण के डर से अस्पताल जाने से बच रही हैं। यही नहीं, आर्थिक एवं स्वास्थ्य विताओं से महिलाओं में डिप्रेशन की शिकायत भी कई गुना बढ़ गई है। इससे सम्पूर्ण प्रसव, मृत शिशु के जन्म और विकृत गर्भावस्था के मामले बढ़े हैं।

कैसे रहें सुरक्षित

हाथ समय-समय पर साबुन से धोएं, सतहों को छूने के बाद सैनेटाइजर लगाएं, औरों से हाथ मिलाने से बचें

हर समय मास्क पहने रहने की कोशिश करें, सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग पर अमल करें, डॉक्टर से ऑनलाइन राय लें

जिन्हें कोई इंफेक्शन हो या फिर जो संक्रमण के प्रति संवेदनशील हों, उनसे दूर रहें

दोस्तों, रिश्तेदारों से मिलने के लिए उनके घर जाने के बजाय वीडियो कॉल पर बात कर दिव को तसल्ली दें

मेहमान आए तो उससे हर समय मास्क पहने रहने को कहें, घर में प्रवेश के साथ ही हाथ धुलावाएं, सैनेटाइजर प्रयोग करें

Health Care Services (Hindustan: 20210419)

https://epaper.livehindustan.com/imageview_772781_121198372_4_1_19-04-2021_3_i_1_sf.html

दिल्ली में कोरोना की मयावह स्थिति के मद्देनजर मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल ने प्रधानमंत्री को पत्र लिख कर मांगी सहायता

कोरोना बेड और ऑक्सीजन उपलब्ध कराए केंद्र

अपील

नई दिल्ली | वरिष्ठ संवाददाता

राजधानी में कोरोना संक्रमण की स्थिति गंभीर होते देख मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल ने प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी को पत्र लिखकर मदद की अपील की है। उन्होंने पत्र में लिखा है कि दिल्ली में लगभग सभी आईसीयू बेड भर चुके हैं। दिल्ली में तत्काल कोरोना बेड बढ़ाए जाएं। कोविड मरीजों के चलते जो ऑक्सीजन की मांग बढ़ी है उसकी आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित की जाए।

केजरीवाल ने पत्र में लिखा है कि दिल्ली में केंद्र सरकार के अस्पतालों में 10 हजार बेड उपलब्ध हैं। वर्तमान में केंद्र सरकार के अस्पतालों में 1800 कोरोना बेड हैं। मगर कोरोना के मीजूदा हालात को देखते हुए इसे बढ़ाकर 7000 बेड करने की जरूरत है। उन्होंने कहा कि दिल्ली में ऑक्सीजन की भी भारी कमी है। उसकी आपूर्ति भी सुनिश्चित की जाए।

केजरीवाल ने कहा है कि इसकी जानकारी केन्द्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री डॉ. हर्षवर्धन को शनिवार को ही दे दी है। उन्होंने कहा कि डीआरडीओ भी दिल्ली में 500 बेड का कोविड अस्पताल चला रहा है, जिसे एक हजार करने की जरूरत है। अंत में उन्होंने प्रधानमंत्री को लिखा है कि अभी तक कोरोना मर्यादारी में केंद्र से हमें हमेशा सहयोग मिला है।



कॉमन वेल्थ गैस परिसर में रविवार को बेड और अन्य इंतजामों का जायजा लेते मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल। • एजेंसी

उम्मीद करता हूँ कि मौजूदा हालात में इन जरूरतों पर भी आप मदद जरूर करेंगे। उन्होंने कहा दिल्ली में तेजी से संक्रमण बढ़ रहा है। दिल्ली में बीते 24 घंटे में कोरोना संक्रमण की दर 24 फीसदी से बढ़कर 30 फीसदी तक पहुंच गई है। यह बेहद चिंताजनक है। उन्होंने कहा कि दिल्ली में अब 100 से भी आईसीयू बेड बचे हैं। एक निजी अस्पताल में ऑक्सीजन की कमी के चलते बड़ी त्रासदी होने से बच गई। मगर ऐसे हालात रहे थे, स्थिति बिगड़ जाएगी। हालांकि हमारी कोशिश है कि हम ज्यादा से ज्यादा ऑक्सीजन बेड बढ़ाएं। केंद्र से भी वही उम्मीद करते हैं कि वह कोविड बेड बढ़ाए।

तीनों सरकार मिलकर काम करेंगी तभी जीतेंगे : सीएम

नई दिल्ली | वरिष्ठ संवाददाता

दिल्ली में बढ़ते कोरोना संक्रमण को देखते हुए मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल ने तीनों निगमों के महापौर और निगमायुक्त के साथ बैठक की। उन्होंने कहा कि हमें इस समय मिलकर काम करना होगा। तीनों निगम अपने अस्पतालों में ज्यादा से ज्यादा कोविड बेड बढ़ाएं। उसके लिए जो भी जरूरत होगी दिल्ली सरकार मदद उपलब्ध कराएगी। उन्होंने कहा कि दिल्ली में तीनों सरकार (केंद्र, दिल्ली और

मामले बढ़े तो बेड की कमी हो जाएगी

अरविंद केजरीवाल ने कहा कि अस्पतालों में बेड सीमित हैं। अगर इसी तरह मामले बढ़ते रहे तो बेड की भी कमी पड़ेगी। हमारे सामने जो स्थिति है, उसमें सबसे बड़ी समस्या बेड की है। आने वाले दिनों में ससावनों की भी कमी पड़ेगी। कब तक केस बढ़ेंगे पता नहीं है। अगर केस दो-चार दिनों में कम होने लगे तो स्थिति नियंत्रण में आ जाएगी। लेकिन, अगर केस ज्यादा दिनों तक बढ़ते रहे और बेड और ऑक्सीजन की कमी पड़ गई, तो बहुत ली कठिन परिस्थिति बनेगी।

निगम) मिलकर काम करेंगे, तभी कोरोना के खिलाफ जंग जीत पाएंगे। बैठक में अरविंद केजरीवाल ने कहा कि तीनों निगम ज्यादा से ज्यादा

को संभालने के लिए हमें मिलकर काम करना होगा। उन्होंने कहा कि केंद्र सरकार से हमने डोर टू डोर कोविड टांकाकरण की भी अनुमति मांगी है।

केजरीवाल ने कहा कि दिल्ली में वर्तमान में बहुत तेजी से कोरोना के मामले बढ़ रहे हैं। मार्च के मध्य तक दिल्ली में 100 से 150 केस आ रहे थे। अब यह 24 हजार से अधिक पहुंच गई है। इतने केस पर कोई भी स्वास्थ्य व्यवस्था कब तक टिकी रह सकती है। बैठक में सिसोदिया और सर्वेन्द्र जैन भी मौजूद रहे।

80% बेड कोरोना मरीजों के लिए आरक्षित

दिल्ली सरकार ने नर्सिंग होम और निजी अस्पतालों को कोविड के मरीजों के लिए 80 फीसदी बेड आरक्षित करने का आदेश दिया है। इसे तत्काल प्रभाव से लागू करने को कहा गया है। कोरोना मरीजों का डेटा प्रबंधन पोर्टल पर जारी करने को कहा गया है। आदेश में कहा गया कि दिल्ली के 115 निजी अस्पतालों में लगभग सभी आईसीयू बेड भर गए हैं। करीब 90% वाई बेड भी भर चुके हैं। ऐसे में कोविड का इलाज करने वाले दिल्ली के सभी नर्सिंग होम व 115 निजी अस्पतालों को 80% बेड आरक्षित करने होंगे।

1500

115

निजी अस्पतालों को कोविड मरीजों के लिए 80 फीसदी बेड आरक्षित करने होंगे। यहां कोविड मरीजों का इलाज हो रहा है

बेड राष्ट्रमंडल खेल गांव, यमुना स्पोर्ट्स कालेक्स और राजज ऐनेथ्यू स्थित विद्यालय में बढ़ाए जाएंगे

कोरोना अस्पताल बना : दिल्ली के तीन दयाल उपाध्याय अस्पताल को सरकार ने पूरी तरह कोरोना अस्पताल घोषित कर दिया है। अब तक यहां अन्य बीमारियों से पीड़ित मरीजों का भी इलाज किया जा रहा था।

Pandemic (Hindustan: 20210419)

https://epaper.livehindustan.com/imageview_772781_119413446_4_1_19-04-2021_3_i_1_sf.html

रुपये जमा कर खरीदे सिलेंडर, सोशल मीडिया की मदद से जरूरतमंदों तक पहुंचा रहे ऑक्सीजन सिलेंडर, सामाजिक संगठन भी साथ आए

कोरोना महामारी में अपनों को खोकर दूसरों की कर रहे मदद



कोरोना योद्धा

दिल्ली में तेजी से कोरोना के मामले बढ़ रहे हैं। इन मरीजों को ऑक्सीजन लेवल घटने पर अस्पतालों में सिलेंडर कम हो गए हैं। ऐसे में कुछ लोग जरूरतमंदों की मदद को आगे आए हैं।

500 जरूरतमंदों तक पहुंचा चुके मदद

अमृतपाल सिंह और उनके भाई नवनीत सिंह पेशे से व्यवसायी हैं। उनके परिचित व्यक्ति की ऑक्सीजन न मिलने से मौत हो गई। इसके बाद उन्होंने ऐसे मरीजों की मदद की ठान ली। एयर कंडीशनर के सेल-परसेज व्यवसाय से जुड़े होने के चलते उन्हें ऑक्सीजन सिलेंडर रखने वाले कारोबारियों की जानकारी थी। इसका लाभ उठा उन्होंने उनसे संपर्क किया। वह अब तक करीब 500 लोगों तक



अमृतपाल सिंह और नवनीत सिंह।

मदद पहुंचा चुके हैं।

सिंह बंधुओं ने बताया कि इसके लिए उन्हें रिश्तेदार अजित सिंह का भी

साथ मिला। तीनों ने मिलकर रुपये जमाकर 10 किलो के 11 सिलेंडर के सेट बनाए। सोशल मीडिया, फोन, व्हाट्सएप ग्रुप आदि पर जरूरतमंदों की मदद शुरू की। योजना करीब 400 लोग उनसे ऑक्सीजन सिलेंडर के लिए संपर्क कर रहे हैं। कभी वह खुद पहुंचाते हैं तो कभी लोग आकर सिलेंडर ले जाते हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि हालता ऐसे हैं कि आने वाले समय में ऑक्सीजन की और कमी होगी।

दोस्तकी दादी नहीं रहीं तो आगे आए



मुनीब, ग्राफिक डिजाइनर

पेशे से ग्राफिक डिजाइनर मुनीब पुरानी दिल्ली में रहते हैं। बीते कुछ दिनों में उनकी जानकारी में उनके आसपास रहने वाले कई ऐसे मरीज

आए जिन्हें ऑक्सीजन सिलेंडर की जरूरत थी। वह उन्हें नहीं मिल पाई या मिलने में परेशानी हुई। उनके एक दोस्त की दादी का ऑक्सीजन सिलेंडर न मिलने से मौत हो गई। इसके बाद उन्होंने खुद और एक सामाजिक संगठन के साथ मिलकर आठ सिलेंडर खरीदे। सोशल मीडिया पर जानकारी साझा की। अब बड़ी संख्या में उनके पास लोगों के ऑक्सीजन सिलेंडर के लिए फोन आ रहे हैं।