



## **Effective Vaccination Drive to Fight Against Novel Coronavirus**

**01 January–31 January, 2022**

The interval between the first and second doses of Covishield still is a point of debate. Recently the CEO of Serum Institute of India (SII), said "Our aim must be to fully vaccinate the population to stop the pandemic from spreading". Although according to the officials in the Health Ministry, the nine-month gap between the second and third doses appears to be right. Hence, they refused to think again on the issue.

On January 27, 2022, India's drug authority, the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI), granted regular market approval for Covid-19 vaccines Covishield and Covaxin for use among the adult population, subject to certain conditions.

The Prime Minister of India has appreciated the performance of the Covid-19 vaccination drive in the country, mentioning that over 4.5 crores of children have received the dose of the Corona vaccine as of 31 January. The accomplishment of the vaccination drive can be observed as in the period of three to four weeks around 60 percent of children of age 15-18 years and one crore of senior citizens has successfully received the vaccination.

In this background, this sixth edition of CUTS Occasional News Wrap (ONW) captures various opinions expressed by way of selective write-ups, op-eds, articles, and news, etc. in the month of January 2022 specifically focused on Effective vaccination drives to fight against novel coronavirus.

	Article/Op-ed	Key Takeaway
1	<p><b>Vax for Teen Begins, 3.3l Get Jabs on Day 1</b></p> <p><i>Times News Network</i> January 03, 2022</p>	<p>On the first day of Covid <b>vaccination</b> for teens on Monday, 3.39 lakh (6.3%) of 53.15 lakh beneficiaries received their first jab in the state till 5.30pm. Jodhpur was leading with 20,833 doses, while Jaipur remained at 10th place with 13,935 shots, showed CoWin portal at 8.30pm.</p>
2	<p><b>Booster to Be of Same Vaccine as Previous 2 Shots</b></p> <p><i>Times of India</i> By Sushmi Dey January 06, 2022</p>	<p>The 'precaution dose' (booster) for Covid-19 — which will be administered from January 10 to health and frontline <b>workers</b> and those above 60 with comorbidities -will be of the same vaccine as the first and second dose, the government said.</p>
3	<p><b>Covaxin's 3<sup>rd</sup> Booster Shot Shows Positive Responses</b></p> <p><i>Economic Times</i> By Teena Thacker January 09, 2022</p>	<p>A third booster shot of Covaxin administered six months after the second dose has shown good <b>immune</b> memory responses and long-term protection from severe disease, a study by Bharat Biotech and Pune-based National Institute of Virology (NIV) has found.</p>
4	<p><b>Which Is the Better Booster?</b></p> <p><i>Times of India</i> By Gagandeep Kang January 11, 2022</p>	<p>It is evident that boosters in the elderly and those otherwise at high risk will provide the greatest decrease in severe disease and death in all parts of the world, if doses and vaccination are not <b>constrained</b>, which is why precautionary doses' make sense here' even in the absence of evidence from India on waning vaccine effectiveness.</p>

5	<p><b>Countries Like India Need Better Vaccines, With Broader Coverage</b></p> <p><i>By Nehal Chaliawla</i> January 11, 2022</p>	<p>With the emergence of new SARS-CoV-2 variants sparking debate over booster dose efficacy, <a href="#">countries</a> like India should seek vaccines with larger coverage, according to a top scientist from Cambridge University.</p>
6	<p><b>Vaccination Is the Best Bet Against Coronavirus</b></p> <p><i>ETHealthWorld.Com</i> January 13, 2022</p>	<p>The PM chaired a comprehensive high-level meeting and reviewing the public health preparedness to Covid-19 and national Covid-19 <a href="#">vaccination</a> progress, informed that india has entered the third year of the fight against “one of the biggest epidemics in 100 years”.</p>
7	<p><b>Covid-19 Vaccination: Over 15.75 Crore Vaccine Doses Still Available with States and UTs, Says Centre</b></p> <p><i>By Swarajya Staff</i> January 13, 2022</p>	<p>In a statement, the Health Ministry said that the Centre has so far provided more than 157.36 crore (1,57,36,18,605) Covid vaccine doses to states and UTs so far through <a href="#">Government</a> of India (free of cost channel) and through direct state procurement category.</p>
8	<p><b>Who Approves Two New Covid-19 Treatments</b></p> <p><i>AFP</i> January 14, 2022</p>	<p>The World Health Organization approved two new Covid-19 treatments on Friday, growing to arsenal of <a href="#">tools</a> along with vaccines to stave off severe illness and death from the virus.</p>

9	<p><b>Covid Vaccination for 12-14 Age Group May Start by March</b></p> <p><i>ET Online</i> January 17, 2022</p>	<p>National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI) said that the vaccination programme for the 12-14 years age group is all set to begin from February-end onwards.</p> <p>We <a href="#">aim</a> to cover all the 7.4 crore adolescents in the 15-17 age bracket with the first dose by January-end so that we can start vaccinating them with the second dose from early February and finish the second dose by February-end.</p>
10	<p><b>In One Year, 70% Of Adults Fully Vaxxed</b></p> <p><i>The Times of India</i> By Sushmi Dey January 17, 2022</p>	<p>Since the world's largest <a href="#">vaccination</a> drive against Covid-19 began on January 16, last year, India has fully vaccinated approximately 70% of its adult population with two doses of Covid jabs in one year, an achievement unprecedented in both scale and reach.</p>
11	<p><b>Covishield, Covaxin to Get Full Approval but Won't Be Retailing</b></p> <p><i>The Times of India</i> By Sushmi Dey January 20, 2022</p>	<p>The drug regulator's subject expert committee (SEC) on Covid vaccines on Wednesday recommended full authorisation for the two widely used jabs- <a href="#">Covishield</a> and Covaxin. However the vaccine will continue to be available and administered only at the centers that are registered under the government's CoWin platform, official source said.</p>
12	<p><b>Tribal District Banswara hailed for 90% first dose Vaccination</b></p> <p><i>The Times of India</i> By Intishab Ali January 21, 2022</p>	<p>Despite being a tribal-dominated district with population scattered in areas difficult to reach, <a href="#">Banswara</a> has scripted a success in vaccinating 90% of its 18+ population with the first dose.</p>

13	<p><b>Teen Vax Drive in Full Steam, Booster for Elders Lacks Speed</b></p> <p><i>TNN</i> January 22, 2022</p>	<p>46.5lakh eligible children in the 15-17 age group, 27.3 lakh have received the first dose of Covid <a href="#">vaccines</a>. The drive for children took off well in the state, but that was not evident in booster doses among elderlies (60+) as only 20.5 % have received it.</p>
14	<p><b>Vax Hesitancy High in Expectant Mothers</b></p> <p><i>The Economic Times</i> By Teena Thacker January 22, 2022</p>	<p>Around 4 million pregnant women have taken the Covid jab ever since the vaccine drive rolled out, which is a minuscule number given that <a href="#">estimates</a> show there are 30 million of them in the country at any point.</p>
15	<p><b>Pfizer, BioNTech Begin Vax Trial to Target New Strain</b></p> <p><i>The Economic Times</i> By Viswanath Pilla January 26, 2022</p>	<p>Pfizer and BioNTech on Tuesday announced the initiation of clinical trials to evaluate the safety, tolerability and immunogenicity of an <a href="#">Omicron</a>-based vaccine candidate in healthy adults 18 through 55 years of age.</p>
16	<p><b>Covaxin, Covishield Granted Market Approval in India but Conditions Apply</b></p> <p><i>The Times of India</i> January 27, 2022</p>	<p>India's drug regulator granted market approval for Covid-19 vaccines Covishield and Covaxin for use in the adult population subject to certain <a href="#">conditions</a> on Thursday. The approval was granted under the New Drugs and Clinical Trials Rules, 2019.</p>
17	<p><b>Booster Gap Should Be Cut to 6 Months</b></p> <p><i>The Economic Times</i> By Theena Thacker January 28, 2022</p>	<p>Adar Poonawalla, chief executive officer (CEO) of Serum Institute of India (SII), on Thursday, said the government should focus on reducing the gap between the second and third <a href="#">dose</a> of Covid-19 vaccines to six months, as is being done globally.</p>

18	<b>Booster Will Be Untimely Now: Expert</b> <i>The Times of India</i> By Nisha Nambiar January 29, 2022	Booster in the current time will not achieve any specific outcome. Unvaccinated should get <a href="#">vaccinated</a> , rather than shifting focus on booster shots.
19	<b>Prime Minister Lauds Vaccination in 15-18 Age Group</b> <i>ET Bureau</i> January 31, 2022	The prime minister also praised the vaccination of those above 60 years. "Another good thing is that within 20 days, one crore people have taken the <a href="#">precautionary</a> dose as well. This trust of our countrymen on the indigenous vaccine is our great strength," Modi said.