



Boost India's Vaccination Rates with the Collaboration of All Vaccine Manufacturing Units

01 February–28 February, 2022

India has reached a historic milestone by vaccinating 80% of its adult population with both doses of the coronavirus vaccine. The first dose has been administered to approximately 96.5% of the country's adult population. Over 2 crore adolescents aged 15 to 18 have received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.

The Indian Medical Association (IMA) is urging the centre and manufacturers Serum Institute of India to prevent the wastage by allowing exchange or a dose-replacement policy. An estimated 50 lakh Covishield doses are currently lying unused in private hospitals across the country.

As per the trial design, a group of youngsters aged two to six became the country's youngest recipients of the Covid vaccination after receiving at least one dose during Covovax jab trials, according to manufacturer Serum Institute of India (SII). After 21 days, the second dose would be delivered.

In this background, this seventh 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 February, 2022 specifically focused on India's vaccination drive, which requires transparency exchange or dose-replacement policy.

	Article/Op-ed	Key Takeaway
1	<p>Vaccination Opened Up Services, Look at it as a Macro-Economic Indicator</p> <p>February 01, 2022 <i>The Times of India</i></p>	<p>It also shows that out of total administered doses of Covid-19 vaccine, 49% have been administered to females and more than 70% of the jabs have been given at CVCs located in rural areas.</p>
2	<p>50 Lakh Unused Covishield Doses May Go to Waste by February-end</p> <p>February 03, 2022 <i>The Economic Time</i></p>	<p>The Indian Medical Association (IMA) is now urging the Centre and manufacturer Serum Institute of India to prevent the wastage by allowing an exchange or a dose-replacement policy.</p>
3	<p>10% Who Died Of Omicron Were Vaccinated: Study</p> <p>By Sushmi Dey February 04, 2022 <i>The Times of India</i></p>	<p>Only 10% deaths were recorded among fully vaccinated people who were hospitalised with omicron infection, compared with nearly 22% fatalities among the unvaccinated or partially vaccinated.</p>
4	<p>Centre Orders 5 Crore Corbevax Doses, May Go To Under-15 Kids</p> <p>By Sushmi Dey February 06, 2022 <i>The Times of India</i></p>	<p>The government has placed a purchase order with Biological E for five crore doses of its Covid vaccine Corbevax, which are expected to arrive by the end of February and boost the availability of jabs under its corona-immunisation programme.</p>
5	<p>CDC Data Suggests Boosters' Protection against Severe Covid-19 Plunges after 4 Months</p> <p>February 12, 2022 <i>By New York Times</i></p>	<p>Covid-19 booster shots lose much of their potency after about four months, raising the possibility that some Americans — specifically those at high risk of complications or death — may need a fourth dose, data published Friday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggest.</p>

6	<p>49% of 60+ People Get Booster Dose in Rajasthan</p> <p>February 14, 2022 <i>The Times Of India</i></p>	<p>The health department is focusing more on vaccinating old people with booster doses as majority of deaths happened in the state were reported were 60+ populations in the third wave of Covid.</p>
7	<p>Expert to Evaluate Today on Corbevax for 12-18 Age Group</p> <p>By Sushmi Dey February 15, 2022 <i>The Times of India</i></p>	<p>Once approved for adolescents above 12 years, Corbevax can potential help the government ramp up its Covid immunisation drive to cover youngsters in the 12-15 age groups as well. This is significant in view of the commencement of the new session in schools.</p>
8	<p>Three Doses of Pfizer Vaccine Better Than Two</p> <p>February 15, 2022 <i>Deccan Chronicle</i></p>	<p>A third dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine conferred higher effectiveness against infection and hospitalisation than two doses of the preventive after one month, a study has found.</p>
9	<p>Corbevax Recommended for Use in Pregnant & Lactating Women</p> <p>By Teena Thacker February 15, 2022 <i>The Economics Times</i></p>	<p>About four million pregnant women have taken the Covid jab ever since the vaccine drive rolled out, which a minuscule number is given that estimates show there are 30 million of them in the country at any point.</p>
10	<p>Govt to Take Call on Vax Policy, Booster After NTAGI Review Data</p> <p>By Sushmi Dey February 17, 2022 <i>The Times Of India</i></p>	<p>The deliberations are likely to influence the government's decision on expansion of the Covid immunisation programme and strategy on booster shots.</p>
11	<p>Ensure Equitable Distribution of Covid Vaccines: India at G20 Meet</p> <p>February 18, 2022 NDTV</p>	<p>Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday urged G20 member nations to ensure expeditious and equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines to aid global recovery.</p>

12	<p>80% of India's Adult Population Fully Vaccinated</p> <p>February 20, 2022 <i>The Times Of India</i></p>	<p>Eighty per cent of India's adult population has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said. The cumulative number of COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country has crossed 175 crore, according to official data.</p>
13	<p>230 Kids Aged 2-6 Become Youngest to Get Covid Jabs in Covovax Trial</p> <p><i>The Economic Time</i> February 23, 2022</p>	<p>A group of 230 children aged two to six have become the youngest in the country to get a Covid vaccine after they were given at least one dose during trials of Covovax jab, manufacturer Serum Institute of India confirmed on Tuesday.</p>
14	<p>Crores Of Syringes Pile Up as Covid Vaccinations Dip</p> <p><i>The Economic Time</i> February 23, 2022</p>	<p>Production of syringes was boosted to support India's Covid vaccine programme among the world's largest but makers said surplus inventory is now lying in warehouse that are fast running out of space.</p>