

**GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

F.No.1(579)/DDMA(HQ)/Meeting/Covid/2021-22 / 611

Dated: 24/2/2022

**MINUTES OF THE 33rd MEETING OF DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY (DDMA) HELD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING ON
04.02.2022 (FRIDAY) AT 11:00 AM UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF
HON'BLE LT. GOVERNOR, DELHI**

1. The 33rd meeting of Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) chaired by Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi to discuss the COVID-19 pandemic situation in NCT of Delhi, was held on February 04, 2022 through Video Conferencing.
2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed all the participants and requested the Chief Secretary, Delhi to start the proceedings.
3. Thereafter, Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD made a presentation before the participants highlighting inter alia the management of current COVID-19 situation in Delhi and data on Testing and Positivity trends, Current situation & Trend Analysis, Audit Report of Covid 19 deaths, Bed Escalation Plan, Home Isolation, Essential Drugs stock availability, Oxygen Preparedness, CATS Ambulance Services, Vaccination and Genome Sequencing. It also included information on bed occupancy of Covid oxygenated beds, Covid ICU beds and Covid ventilator beds. Details of hospitalised patients with reference to different kind of beds occupied was also shared. Death analysis data of the patients who died during the period was also presented before the participants.
4. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD informed that on 03.02.2022, a total of 61992 tests were done in Delhi, out of which, 50536 were RTPCR tests and remaining 11456 were Rapid Antigen tests. Covid bed capacity in the Government and Private hospitals as on 03.02.2022 was 15426 and only a total of 1314 Covid beds were occupied. Out of these, only 1264 Covid Oxygen Support beds, 512 ICU beds and 225 ventilator beds were occupied by the Covid 19 patients. On Covid beds escalation plan, it was informed that out of 37,000 targeted Covid beds, 31970 beds were ready as on 03.02.2022, out of 10594 targeted ICU beds, 9324 beds were ready and 2328 targeted pediatrics beds were ready as on 03.02.2022.
5. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD presented an update on Medical Oxygen Infrastructure in Delhi. It was informed that a total 97 PSA Plants with total capacity of 116.06 MTs had either been installed or were in the process of being commissioned. Total 95 PSA plants have already been commissioned. 2 PSA plants would be commissioned by 10.02.2022. It was also informed that as on 03.02.2022, LMO storage tanks capacity of 983.24 MTs have been installed with buffer reserve of 442 MTs and all the tanks received PESO clearance. Oxygen capacity of 234.27 MT cylinders and Cylinders Reserve of 6000 (D type) + 9115 cylinders have been distributed in hospitals linked with Covid Care Centres. Further, 2 cryogenic bottling plants with capacity of 12.5 MTs have also been commissioned. PESO clearance has been received with capacity to refill 1400 jumbo cylinders /day. It was also informed that work order has been awarded for delivery of 15 LMO tanks. Delivery of 3 tanks by 15th February, 2022, 6 tanks by



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24th February, 2022 and remaining 06th tanks by 24th March, 2022 would be made by the vendors.

6. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD informed more than 298.21 lakh of vaccine doses have been administered as on 03rd February, 2022 in Delhi. 1st dose has been administered to 109% of eligible population and 2nd dose has been administered to 84% of such beneficiaries. It was also informed that a total of 3,05,014 precaution doses have been administered on 03.02.2022. 1st dose has also been administered in 15-18 year age group to 82% of such beneficiaries upto 3rd February, 2022. Covid vaccine stocks available as on 3rd February, 2022, were 11.59 lakh doses (Covishield- 9.02 lakh doses, Covaxin-2.57 lakh doses).

7. Secretary (H&FW), GNCTD informed that the availability of CATS ambulances as on 03.02.2022 was 692 (237 CATS Ambulances + 135 hired ambulances + 320 cabs). The 320 cabs are deployed at Covid-19 vaccination centers, which can be diverted to CATS ambulance centre, whenever required.

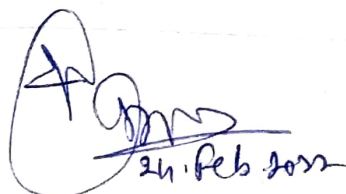
8. On Genome Sequencing, Secretary (H&FW) informed that 3597 samples were analyzed by various labs such as ILBS, LNH & NCDC and out of these, 2833 samples were detected with a variant of Omicron and 519 with Delta variant. Ratio of this comes to 79% Omicron and 14% Delta variant and 07% others.

9. Thereafter, Director of Education, GNCTD also made a presentation on the recommendation of Joint Committee of the Officers from Education and Health Departments, GNCT of Delhi regarding re-opening of schools. He informed that the 12 States have already opened schools for all classes. In adjoining States of Rajasthan & Haryana, classes from IX to XII have been opened w.e.f. 01.02.2022. In Uttar Pradesh and Haryana all schools are closed up to 06.02.2022. He stated that following recommendations have been made by the Committee regarding opening of schools:-

- Schools may be reopened for all the classes in Delhi w.e.f. 07.02.2022 with strict compliance of Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB).
- Parental consent to be taken for attending classes in physical mode in schools.
- Head of the school would stagger the classes based upon school infrastructure and resources to ensure Social Distancing and Covid Appropriate Behaviour. The blanket condition of 50% attendance could be removed.
- Blended / Hybrid Mode (Online & Offline) to continue for teaching.
- School transportation facility to be allowed as per DDMA norms for public transport.

School Readiness Plan:

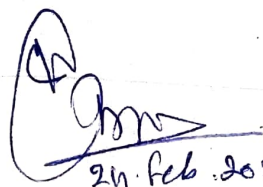
- HoS shall hold meetings with all SMCs to finalize the readiness plan and encourage vaccination for all students immediately.


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- HoS shall ensure sanitization of schools and ensure availability of key supplies like thermal scanners, disinfectants, sanitisers, soaps, masks etc.
- Daily symptoms check for fever, cough, fatigue, muscle / body ache, head ache etc. shall be monitored by the school teachers.
- Each school has designated quarantine room.
- Posters / standees to be displayed at prominent places in schools.

Covid Appropriate Behaviour:

- Time table shall be prepared as per occupancy limit of the classroom / lab.
 - Staggering of crowd in classes and at entry / exit shall be done.
 - On campus counseling shall be conducted by the teachers.
 - Proper ventilation in classrooms and covered places shall be ensured.
10. After the presentation, Chief Secretary, Delhi requested the experts for their views and further guidance considering the situation in Delhi.
11. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, Niti Aayog, GoI observed that the Covid situation in NCT of Delhi was comfortable now compared to a few weeks ago. The total number of cases as well as positivity rate have also declined substantially in the last few days. This was indeed a positive development. He appreciated all round, holistic and systematic planning with excellent implementation of the same by GNCT of Delhi. Considering the present situation, he stated that it was an appropriate time to open schools and educational institutions. He suggested opening of primary schools as well, as all children need to be attending schools now. However, he reiterated that the Covid Appropriate Behaviour should be ensured, as virus was still around and vigil was still needed in Delhi due to its dense population. Dr. V.K. Paul also observed that given the low number of cases, it was right time to assess post Covid 19 impact on mental health of old people. He also advised that healing was needed on mental health aspects as well as on the economic front.
12. Dr. Sujit Kumar Singh, Director, NCDC congratulated the Delhi Government for a good management of Covid 19 situation. He also agreed with Dr Paul that it was time to open schools for all classes as Delhi was in good phase as far as overall Covid situation was concerned. He observed that a declining trend of positivity rate of 4.5% was very reassuring. He mentioned that even in recent Serological Survey, no surge of virus has been found in the children. He observed that intervening period was always appropriate to open schools. The pool of susceptible people was also declining due to exposure or high level of vaccination. Good protection was available to the community. Many States have opened schools and no rise in cases have been reported.


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13. Dr. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS congratulated the Health & Family Welfare Department, Delhi Government for handling the situation in remarkable way. He also agreed that schools needed to be open but Covid Appropriate Behaviour must be ensured. He emphasized that it was time to deescalate Covid management preparations a bit and attention to non Covid care should be given. He stressed that patients with long Covid symptoms should also be assessed.

14. Dr. Samiran Panda, Addl. DG-ICMR, GoI observed that situation in NCT of Delhi was under control. He advised death audit of deaths and suggested death analysis of vaccinated, partially vaccinated, unvaccinated and patients with co morbidities.


15. Sh. Krishna Vatsa, Member NDMA also agreed with the proposal of opening of the schools but stressed that due precaution should be taken. He also stated that schools and all educational institutes should be opened. Covid Appropriate Behaviour and surveillance, wherever required be continued.

16. Sh. Kunal Satyarthi, Joint Secretary, NDMA recalled his suggestions in the previous meetings regarding opening of schools. He again advised that schools be opened in a staggered way. Schools from class IX to XII could be opened from 7th February, 2022 and later on classes VI to VIII and primary classes could be opened w.e.f 14th & 21st February, 2022.

17. Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Delhi observed that all experts have agreed to open schools. He reminded that children have lost valuable learning due to closure of schools, as online classes cannot substitute classroom teaching. Past experience of opening schools, it was found that school students and teachers followed much more Covid Appropriate Behaviour compared to people in markets and malls. He suggested opening of schools and colleges for IX to XIIth classes from 7th February, 2022 and rest of the classes from 14th February, 2022. The Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi and Higher Education should be directed to issue necessary orders. He further stated that all coaching, training institutes and skilling institutes should also be opened simultaneously. Hon'ble Deputy CM, Delhi also mentioned that the owners of the Gyms and general public have been representing to open Gyms. Therefore, DDMA should consider opening them as well. Hon'ble Dy. CM also referred to the timing of restaurants and bars. He stated that closure of these in early hours of evening did not allow dinner in the restaurants and suggested extension of closure time up to 11:00 PM. He also reminded that enforcement agencies direct closing of restaurants at least 1 hour before the stipulated time. He requested that agencies should be directed to allow actual opening of restaurants up to 11:00 PM. He also opined that Night Curfew should also be removed.

18. Based on the discussions and unanimous opinion of all experts, Chief Secretary, Delhi summed up the deliberations as under:-

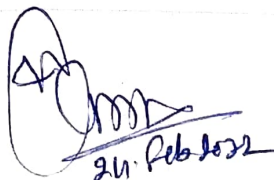
- a) Covid cases and daily positivity rate has declined substantially over the last few days and fallen to 4.5. He recalled that all experts have agreed that it was an appropriate time to open schools / colleges / Coaching, training institutes and skill imparting institutions, libraries.


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- b) Senior / Secondary classes be opened from 7th February, 2022 subject to ensuring compliance of Covid Appropriate Behaviour and full vaccination of teachers as well as other staff. However, it was also agreed to take consent of parents to continue in hybrid mode of teaching in respect of students up to classes 12. College/higher educational/training/coaching and skill development institutions would be permitted to resume classes in full physical mode.
- c) On vaccination of 15-18 age group children, it was mentioned that vaccination percentage of government schools' children was much higher compared to children of Private schools. It was therefore emphasized that parents of the private schools and teachers be taken into confidence so as to enable further increase of vaccination among the private school students.
- d) It was also unanimously agreed that it was right time to restore economic activities and bring the same on main stage. Spas / Wellness clinics / Gyms / Yoga institutes / Swimming pools would also be allowed to operate with conditions as per previous orders issued in this regard. All offices may also be allowed with 100% attendance. B2B exhibitions would also be allowed with compliance of covid appropriate behavior by organizers and others associated with. However, night curfew would be continued for some more time, as some restrictions were still necessary. The positivity rate in some States was still high and rising in some States. Delhi, being a National Capital and a business hub; has people from all States travelling to Delhi. Therefore, no lowering of guard could be allowed in Delhi in such a situation.
- e) Wearing of masks by a single person in a four wheeled vehicles came up for discussion. It was pointed out that in a recent case, the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi has observed that this order needed a relook.
- f) Mental Health Counseling in an institutional manner would be considered and IHBAS would be asked to come up with an appropriate plan & mechanism for implementation of the same.

19. Hon'ble Dy. CM, Delhi also mentioned that Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi is getting a study done on emotional well being of school students with a large sample size. The study will assess as to how far the pandemic has affected the mental well being of the school children and whether any new problems have been identified among them would also be ascertained by this study. Hon'ble Dy. CM also stated that visitors / devotees to the religious places and opening of weekly markets should also be considered as number of representations continued to be received from various religious organizations and market associations in this regard.

20. After detailed discussions with the experts and in view of the decline in Covid-19 positive cases, Hon'ble Lt. Governor agreed to ease restrictions as proposed while emphasizing on adherence to Covid Appropriate Behaviour.



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Hon'ble LG thanked the experts for their advice and appreciated the efforts put in by all the stakeholders in effective management of Covid-19 in Delhi and emphasized the need to maintain continued vigil and not to lower the guard while focusing on enhancing vaccination coverage and ensuring strict enforcement of Covid protocols.

21. The members of Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) also resolved to ratify all decisions / orders issued since the last meeting.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the chair.


(Kuldeep Singh Gangar)
Spl. CEO (DDMA)

Dated: 24/2/2022

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Copy to:-

1. Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi.
2. Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, GNCTD.
3. Secretary to the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi.
4. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog, GoI.
5. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Health, GNCTD.
6. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Revenue, GNCTD.
7. OSD to Chief Secretary, GNCTD.
8. ACS (Power), GNCT of Delhi.
9. General Officer Commanding (HQ), Delhi Cantt. Area, Delhi.
10. Commissioner of Police, GNCT of Delhi.
11. The Addl. Secretary (Policy and Plan), NDMA, Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI.
12. ACS (UD) & Director, Local Bodies, UD Department, Delhi Secretariat, Delhi.
13. ACS (Home) / State Nodal Officer, GNCTD.
14. ACS (H&FW), GNCTD.
15. Pr. Secretary (Revenue), GNCTD.
16. Prof. Balram Bhargava, DG-ICMR, Govt. of India.
17. Sh. Krishna Vatsa, Member NDMA.
18. Sh. Kamal Kishore, Member NDMA.
19. Dr. RandeepGuleria, Director, AIIMS.
20. Dr. Sujit Kumar Singh, Director, NCDC.
21. Director, Education Department, GNCTD
21. Sr. System Analyst, Revenue Department, GNCTD for uploading the Minutes of Meeting on the DDMA website.


(Kuldeep Singh Gangar)
Spl. CEO (DDMA)