



Chapter – 18

INDIA'S EXPORT OF COVID-19 VACCINE

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In December 2019, there were viral disease cases in the city of Wuhan, China. Some of the unexpected cases had been reported to have begun from visiting the seafood and live animals shop in the city of Wuhan. The study has shown that the infection is caused by new varieties of the virus identified as novel coronavirus; the virus was subsequently named COVID-19.

COVID-19 grew within China and gradually spread to the rest of the world. On January 30th, 2020 The World Health Organisation announced the outbreak of Public Health Emergency of International Concern.

How did the Covid-19 disease occur?

According to the experts, the spread of the virus was from creatures/animals. Numerous infected patients either worked or usually shopped in the seafood wholesale supermarket in the middle of the city of Wuhan, which retails flesh and lives animals.

According to the sources, it is considered that the virus might have been spread through direct contact between individuals and animals, either by eating those creatures or by coming in physical contact with them, and it can spread through the wind, water, other animals as carriers, just like other cold germs.

The real source of this virus has not yet been found and researchers are still working to figure it out. But so far we have identified symptoms of covid-19 and how it infects human beings. Humans infected with coronavirus may suffer from cold, sore throat, dry cough, loss of taste, loss of smell, breathing issues, and mild to the high fever which may be ignored at first also it is said that coronavirus infects older people quickly and people with a weak immune system find it difficult to fight it.

We have been experiencing and fighting this crisis for about two years now, we lost many lives and had to face a huge

economic loss. There was a point when the cases of Covid patients were so high that there were no beds and medical staff available to check the patients.

With the help of our scientists and healthcare providers, we were able to create a vaccine for Covid-19. The first set of doses was given to the frontline workers and public servants. It took India some time to allocate the vaccines to healthcare providers all over the country. After the first set, the vaccine was made available to older citizens of the country as they were the most vulnerable to the virus. And with time and availability of stock, it was allocated to all the age groups above 18.

After giving vaccines to half of the population in the country, India started exporting them to help other countries. To date, India has exported around 66.3 million doses of vaccine.

Table 1.15 countries in which India exports vaccines.

S. No.	Country	Quantity (Doses)
1.	Mexico	8,70,000
2.	Bhutan	5,50,000
3.	Nepal	24,48,000
4.	Mauritius	4,00,000
5.	Nigeria	40,24,000
6.	Morocco	70,00,000
7.	Sri Lanka	10,00,000
8.	Saudi Arabia	30,00,000
9.	Maldives	3,12,000

10.	Myanmar	37,00,000
11.	Bangladesh	103,00,000
12.	Argentina	5,80,000
13.	Afghanistan	9,68,000
14.	Brazil	40,00,000
15.	The Democratic Republic of the congo	17,66,000

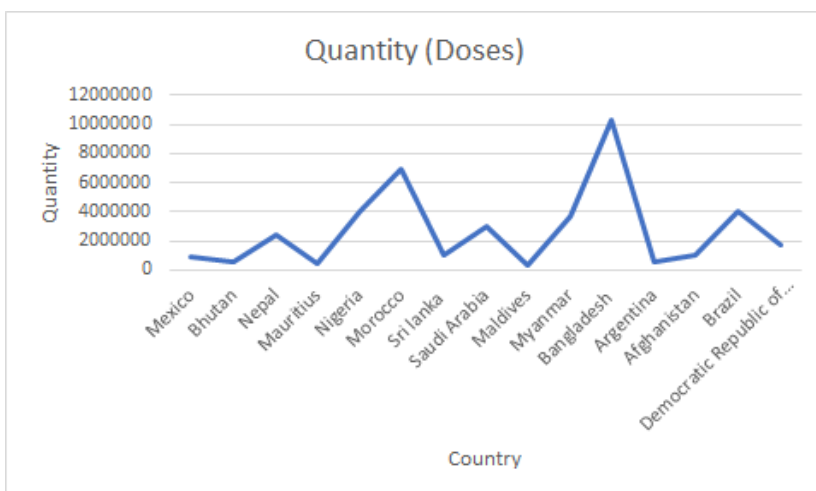


Figure 1. Quantity of vaccines exported to different countries

1. On 12 February 2021, India supplied 8,70,000 Covaxin doses to Mexico.
2. 5,50,000 covid-19 vaccines were delivered as gifts in two batches to Bhutan.
3. In Nepal 11,00,000 doses were delivered as grant and on 20 February 2021, 10,00,000 doses were exported under

- commercial order, then 3,48,000 doses were delivered. India exported a total of 24,48,000 covid-19 vaccines to Nepal.
4. On 22 January 2021 India exported 1,00,000 quantities of vaccine as a grant. Then 3,00,000 covid-19 vaccines were supplied by Bharat biotech and SII in two batches to Mauritius.
 5. India helped Nigeria by granting them 40,24,000 vaccine doses.
 6. India shipped 70,00,000 doses to Morocco in 3 batches.
 7. India exported 10,00,000 vaccines to Sri Lanka.
 8. 30,00,000 covid-19 vaccines were delivered to Saudi Arabia.
 9. On 20 January 2021 India delivered 2,00,000 vaccines as a gift to the Maldives then 1,12,000 doses were exported under commercial order totaling 3,12,000 were given to the Maldives.
 10. To Myanmar, 17,00,000 covid-19 shots were given as a gift then on 11 February 2021, 20,00,000 vaccines were delivered by supporting the commercial deal.
 11. India shipped the covid vaccine to Bangladesh in three batches on 21 January 2021 total of 33,00,000 vaccines were exported free of cost. 70,00,000 doses from the commercial deal 50,00,000 and 20,00,000 doses were transported.
 12. On 16 February 2021 India exported 5,80,000 vaccines to Argentina.
 13. Afghanistan received 9,68,000 doses on 7 February 2021 from India.
 14. 40,00,000 total vaccines were delivered in two batches to

Brazil.

15. On 1 March the 2021 Democratic Republic of the Congo received 17,66,000 from India.

Presently, the most significant question arises, what can we do to prevent this covid-19 situation?

The first best solution to stop this outbreak is the vaccine. In the whole world, we are honored to declare India's first vaccine against coronavirus named "COVAXIN"

India launched their first covid-19 vaccine Covaxin in January 2021. As you all know vaccines play a crucial role to fight the virus. The advantage of getting COVAXIN is to protect against COVID-19. There is approximately 87% efficacy in preventing covid-19 in adults with good hygiene- washing hands, covering face with masks, social distancing, etc.

But, these measures are not enough to prevent the virus. The vaccine works with your immune system and creates antibodies, therefore if you come in contact with the virus later, your body will recognize it and will be able to fight off the infection. The vaccine is tested and it is safe and effective. The vaccine has a two-dose series and only after receiving the second dose of the vaccine, it will start working.

Table2. There are top 8 COVID-19 vaccines available in the world.

Vaccine Name	Country	Efficacy	Dosage
Pfizer/BioNTech	US - Pfizer Germany Bio- N Tec	90-95%	2 doses 21 days
Moderna	United State	90-94%	2 days

			28 days
AstraZeneca or Covishield	Uk Sweden	70%	2 doses 28 days
Janssen/ and Johnson Johnson	US Belgium	70-85%	2 doses 56 days
Covaxin	India	80-90%	2 doses 56 days
Sputnik V	Russia	85-90%	2 doses 21 days
Sinovac/Coronovac	China	65-75%	2 doses 60 days
Novavax	United States	85-89%	2 doses 30 days

So, these are the best available vaccines present globally as of now. On average all the vaccines show efficacy against different variants in the range of 60-95% which is a good sign to control the virus.

India developed “COVAXIN” is inactivated virus vaccine it shows the efficacy of 80-90%

India has granted millions of the covid-19 vaccine doses free of cost to different countries across the world.

India has exported 66.3 million doses of covid-19 vaccine to 95 countries. The Government of India supplied free-of-cost vaccines or sent them as a gift to 47 countries.

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