



# HEALTH WRAP

Jan - Feb 2021



# FICCI Health Services Leadership 2021



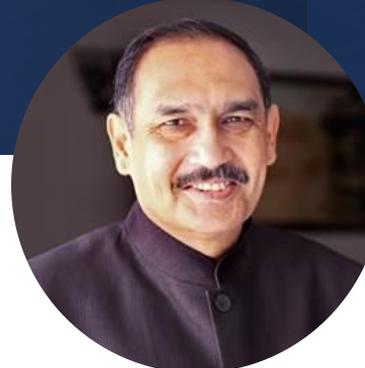
**Dr Alok Roy**

Chair, FICCI Health Services Committee & Chairman of Medica Group of Hospitals



**Mr Gautam Khanna**

Co-Chair, FICCI Health Services Committee & CEO P D Hinduja Hospitals



**Dr Harsh Mahajan**

Co-Chair, FICCI Health Services Committee & Founder & Chief Radiologist, Mahajan Imaging



**Dr Narottam Puri**

Advisor, FICCI Health Services Committee & Former Chairman- NABH, Advisor- Medical Operations, Fortis Healthcare Ltd

## *Leadership speaks on Union Budget....*

As the Govt has announced the Union Budget 21-22 for Health sector, it marks a committed approach towards the healthcare sector by our Hon'ble Finance Minister. The very fact that government has put health as the first pillar shows that finally it is being considered as the prerequisite to ensure economic well-being of the country. The total outlay of 2.23 lakh crore for the healthcare budget, with a massive increase of 137% from last year is a welcome move for the healthcare industry. Although this is a very substantial figure, we must note that it includes allocation to Dept. of Health and Family Welfare, Health Research, AYUSH, COVID Vaccination Drive, Drinking Water and Sanitation as well as Nutrition.

Increase in allocation to the three departments responsible for health (D/o HFW, D/o Health Research and M/o AYUSH) is only 11%. To achieve the target of National Health Policy 2017 of increasing public health spend to 2.5% of GDP by 2025 in a phased manner, we needed to allocate INR 1.5 lakh crore to health in FY 21-22; therefore, there is a shortfall of approx. INR 73,000 crore.

The PM AatmaNirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana, in addition to the National Health Mission, with an outlay of INR 64,180 crore over six years is the most significant announcement and will help in strengthening primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare in the country, addressing the need for holistic care.



**Dr Alok Roy**

**Chair, FICCI Health Services Committee &  
Chairman of Medica Group of Hospitals**

In lieu of the current unprecedented crisis, the allocation of Rs 35,000 crore for COVID-19 vaccines strengthens our motive to fight against the deadly virus for the safety and wellbeing of society. While increase in public health expenditure is indeed welcome, private sector plays a critical role. We were expecting incentives for the private healthcare sector like tax benefits for setting up infrastructure in smaller towns, zero GST regime, tax incentives for substantial capex investments incurred to fight COVID, incentives for development of skilled manpower, which have not been covered in the budget. We do hope that these issues will be given due importance under infrastructure spending by the government.

Overall, the budget looks promising to make quality healthcare accessible and affordable, besides standardizing healthcare infrastructure across the country.

FICCI recently formed a Task Force and collaborated with EY to develop FICCI-EY Strategy Paper for 'Protecting India- PPP for vaccinating against COVID-19', which was submitted to PMO, MoHFW, NITI Aayog, DoP, CDSCO, ICMR and State Governments.

Moreover, as we have already started to see the digital era in Indian healthcare take shape, FICCI is forming a Task force on Digital Health which will focus upon National Digital Health Mission- Implementation support from the private sector, 'Healthcare Cybersecurity in India'- Knowledge Paper and Webinar and Indo-German Platform in Healthcare Technology & Digital Health in collaboration with German Health Alliance (GHA)

FICCI's Swasth Bharat Task Force is also working on White paper on '**Infectious diseases beyond COVID-19**', which would be released soon. The Task Force has also collaborated with NATHealth, ASLI, MTAI and PWC to develop a paper on '**Reforming Senior Care In India**'.

FICCI, over the past months, has been actively engaged with various Ministries, NITI Aayog, NHA, WHO as well as the Empowered Groups at multiple levels through Policy recommendations, Strategic interventions and Advocacy & Communication.

## **Automation in Lab Diagnostics: Enable growth with cost benefits and operational efficiencies**

Today it is totally a New World of Pandemics. A “normal” no one could have predicted this time last year.

Year 2021 is the “new normal”. From almost death of labs at the start of Pandemic, all diagnostic providers jumped back to normal and are now at the forefront of fight against Covid Pandemic. The role of diagnostics over past one year, and in the months and years going forward, cannot be underscored enough.

There is a need to create newer models for providing service to our patients and to prepare ourselves for future & ensuring business continuity, at the time of such eventualities. The diagnostic is definitely going to take a center stage. Faster, easier, more accurate diagnostics will give us an edge and is the new normal as we move ahead.

Diagnostic Laboratories are essential in medicine, research, and development. They are the place where ideas are produced, implemented, and optimized. Innovative technologies are very important in such processes, especially in healthcare. Reliable results and a high degree of quality must be ensured at all times.



**Dr Ravi Gaur**

**Director & Chairman – Medical Advisory  
Committee, Oncquest Labs**

The world of the laboratory is changing at a rapid pace. As we move forward 'Digitalization and Automation' will mark a new era. Digitization is the new norm. It is a clear lesson the ongoing pandemic has taught, and the medical diagnostics field is one that is adopting it at a much faster pace due to the shrinking of qualified lab personnel and more and more precision expected in clinical results. In this context, automation is playing a larger and larger role.

There are numerous advantages in automated systems and soon it will find a way into more and more clinical laboratories.

Today the expectation from a modern medical laboratory have gone up. To meet such ever-increasing demands, modern medical laboratories in India have adopted several ways and no doubt automation, robotics, and the use of artificial intelligence (AI) are cornerstones of this attempt.

Moreover, the fallout from COVID-19 has led the labs to focus on the need to automate faster. Moving forward to bridge the revenue gaps, streamline operations, and prepare them for better future crisis laboratory automation is no longer optional. Technology through automation and artificial intelligence is definitely one of the most disruptive sources. We are now heading for 'Smart Labs' and it works well in terms of economic sustainability. Adopting automation to the level feasible is thus pure simple business sense and is a must for survival.

Automation will help in delivering faster results —even with a high volume of specimens, optimization of resources and process efficiencies. It will reduce errors and the results will also have better reproducibility and comparability making processes transparent and traceable. The specimens can be tracked throughout the entire process. Automated processes save material and require less personnel. Inventory management is another area which will lead to timely stock alerts and reduce inventory holding and keep a check on expiry of kits. This allows for further cost savings. Automation will help in improving margins for sure. Automation is basically cost cutting by tightening the corners and not cutting the corners.

Clinical laboratories will also benefit from automation, in matters of safety for the laboratory personnel. Automation will help the laboratories to upgrade their quality standards and bring them at par with NABL and other global quality requirements

The pandemic led to lockdown and temporary closing down of many labs, as the work force and patients feared risk of infection and were not turning up at the laboratory. This exposed the fact that, despite a lot of hype over the years, advanced automation has not been substituted for human workers at scale. Had the automation moved with more alacrity and determination in the past, labs would have been in a better position to face the pandemic.

As full services of labs are restored, we move forward we will see an accelerated investment in the lab automation, when the full services are restored. This might take a while, but major providers have already started exploring the possibility for adoption of complete automation in all processes, from pre-analytical, analytical to post-analytical. Many high-end labs in the country are now in an automation mode

Many have raised the question that how and why robots and artificial intelligence are considered to be a smarter and better option than qualified pathologists? Aren't there any possibilities of malfunctioning? If yes, how to resolve it? I think it will not be fair to compare Human Pathologist with automated artificial intelligence (AI) & robots. An AI driven system for pathology, that achieves a performance of almost 90-95% or even more, may sound to outperform pathologists, but this is not going to be the case. Human body is too complex and dynamic. No two diseases are same, and this is more so in cases of cancer. Pathologist provide the final diagnosis based on the morphology and staining characters of the tumor cells. Human pathologists are aware that, one cell type can have different characteristics in different patients and even a patient's healthy cells can appear similar to another person's tumor cells.

With AI, it would be difficult. Computers will need much more aggressive training and exponential data to become aware of all likely disease presentations. At times human pathologist correlate many diverse factors and use commonsense to arrive at correct diagnosis. However, AI driven augmented intelligence, will be of much greater benefit. AI can be of great help to pathologist for improving upon their performance and tissue analysis, specially in highly complex cases. There is a need for pathologist and computer to work together for better delivery. We should think in terms of collaboration instead of talking about competition.

When we think of automation we need to talk about robots and cobots and their utility in the diagnostics industry? In my view, Collaborative robots (Cobots) will definitely be more useful than Robots. As I understand, the cobots are designed to work along with and hand-in-hand with human employees, while robots work in place of employees. Cobots are more capable of “learning” on the job. These machines focus on reducing human errors, doing repetitive tasks, such as picking up sample to deliver to a designated space, thus the staff can focus more on other important skill requiring work which need more focus like clinical correlation, result interpretation and skill.

‘Automation’ is a bit scary for workers, as efficient automation, robots or cobots can work faster, cheaper, and nonstop. However, the automated processes can vastly improve productivity and efficiency. It is already happening in pathology labs and with rapid pace. The hematology, biochemistry immunoassays microbiology, molecular testing etc is getting fully automated. Robotic arms are taking care of pre-analytical space. Digital technology has changed the healthcare delivery. Test ordering is getting fully automated. In hospitals, samples are being transported by pneumatic tubes. These changes are improving efficiency of testing process.

As we go ahead, we will see more advances, but I do not think we can replace laboratory technicians. On the contrary, technicians will be doing more meaningful job and will feel more satisfied with their work. Any automation in healthcare leads to more human empowerment. Automation may eliminate the need for manual labour but can never eliminate the need for knowledge. However unskilled workers will need to update themselves and get more skilled as we move forward.

The new technologies and the process of automation is going to cost. Labs have to invest capital, for gains. As the capital expenditure is going to be on higher side, there is some reluctance in Indian Diagnostic labs to adopt these measures. Skilled manpower is still available at lower cost as compared to developed world. But with increasing fixed costs, labs are facing challenges to scale up and even sustain their operations, despite 18-20% growth year on year. Thus, labs are left with no option but to adopt maximum possible automation for survival.

# Union Budget 2021-22

[Article on FICCI Budget  
Recommendations for Healthcare Sector](#)



# FICCI'S SUGGESTIONS FOR UNION BUDGET 2021-22 - Healthcare



The need to strengthen our healthcare infrastructure has been fortified with the COVID-19 crisis. The government has already envisaged increasing public spend on healthcare to 2.5% of GDP (from around 1.3% currently). FICCI urges the government to start spending an extra 0.5% of GDP every year on health for the next five years.

FICCI has suggested certain tax incentives to strengthen health infrastructure in the private sector

- Extend tax benefits under Sec 35AD (100% deduction on capital expenditure) to all hospitals. Currently it is applicable only to hospitals having minimum capacity of 100 beds.
- Weighted deduction (150% of capital expenditure) be allowed to healthcare providers for CAPEX incurred for fighting COVID pandemic (Significant fresh investment in medical equipment like CT scans, laboratory apparatus, setting up ICUs etc. has been done).
- Incentivise skill development in healthcare to bridge the huge skill gap. Provide weighted deduction of 150% of expenses incurred on skill development in healthcare sector (hospitals and diagnostic centres).
- To incentivise health insurance for individuals and encourage voluntary purchase, the quantum of deduction towards payment of medical insurance premium should be enhanced (to INR 50,000 from current INR 25,000)
- Consider launch of Health Infrastructure Fund and Medical Innovation Fund. This would facilitate greater access to capital for the industry
- Medical Value Tourism (including AYUSH related tourism) can be a significant contributor to foreign exchange and should be promoted.



## Mr Gautam Khanna

Co-chair FICCI Health Services Committee  
and CEO, PD Hinduja Hospital



**Healthcare Industry welcomes the 137% increase in budget for healthcare. Steps like PM AtmaNirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana, Mission Poshan 2.0 and Urban Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 are commendable. These allocations will help in the significant enhancement of health outcomes**

# Health News

## **Registration for next round of Covid vaccination likely to start 1<sup>st</sup> March**

Co-Win as well as other IT applications and platforms will go live from 1<sup>st</sup> March around 10 am. People will be required to just fill in a few details and upload the identification proof and publish

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/registration-for-next-round-of-covid-vaccination-likely-to-start-monday/articleshow/81253045.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/registration-for-next-round-of-covid-vaccination-likely-to-start-monday/articleshow/81253045.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

## **COVID vaccine: 70% health workers vaccinated with both doses, informs Health Ministry**

Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan informed that 77 per cent of health care workers have been administered with the first dose and 70 per cent got the second dose so far.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/covid-vaccine-70-health-workers-vaccinated-with-both-doses-informs-health-ministry/videoshow/81247669.cms>

## **COVID-19 vaccination will be allowed at home in future**

Senior citizens and vaccine beneficiaries above 45 years with co-morbidities would in future be able to schedule Covid-19 vaccinations at home from nearby private hospitals, said National Health Authority CEO RS Sharma

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/covid-vaccination-will-be-allowed-at-home-in-future/articleshow/81237971.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/covid-vaccination-will-be-allowed-at-home-in-future/articleshow/81237971.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

# Health News

## **Companies 'feel betrayed' due to capping of COVID-19 vaccine price: Kiran Mazumdar Shaw**

She further said, "Covid Vaccine Jab Capped At Rs 250 At Private Hospitals: Government - understand vaccine cos (sic) feel betrayed as price is too low to sustain."

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/pharmaceuticals/companies-feel-betrayed-due-to-capping-of-covid-19-vaccine-price-kiran-mazumdar-shaw/articleshow/81255668.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/pharmaceuticals/companies-feel-betrayed-due-to-capping-of-covid-19-vaccine-price-kiran-mazumdar-shaw/articleshow/81255668.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

## **Can vaccinated people still spread the coronavirus?**

Deborah Fuller, a microbiologist at the University of Washington working on coronavirus vaccines explains what the science shows about transmission post-vaccination - and whether new variants could change this equation.

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/can-vaccinated-people-still-spread-the-coronavirus/articleshow/81233814.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/can-vaccinated-people-still-spread-the-coronavirus/articleshow/81233814.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

## **More than 1.37 crore COVID-19 vaccine doses administered: Government**

As per the provisional report till 26<sup>th</sup> February 6 pm, a total of 1,37,56,940 vaccine doses have been given through 2,89,320 sessions - 66,37,049 (76.6 per cent) healthcare workers (HCWs) who got their first dose, 22,04,083 (62.9 per cent) HCWs who received their second dose and 49,15,808 (47.7 per cent) frontline workers (FLWs) who were administered their first dose.

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/more-than-1-37-crore-covid-19-vaccine-doses-administered-government/articleshow/81232683.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/more-than-1-37-crore-covid-19-vaccine-doses-administered-government/articleshow/81232683.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

# Health News

## **Novel method to predict emergence of worrisome coronavirus variants**

Scientists have developed a new method to predict the course of evolution of the novel coronavirus and determine which lineages currently in circulation could spread widely in future, an advance that may help vaccine manufacturers stay one-step ahead of worrisome antibody-escaping variants.

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/novel-method-to-predict-emergence-of-worrisome-coronavirus-variants/articleshow/81227880.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/novel-method-to-predict-emergence-of-worrisome-coronavirus-variants/articleshow/81227880.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

## **The coronavirus is plotting a comeback. Here's our chance to stop it for good**

Across the United States, and the world, the coronavirus seems to be loosening its stranglehold. The deadly curve of cases, hospitalizations and deaths has yo-yoed before, but never has it plunged so steeply and so fast

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/the-coronavirus-is-plotting-a-comeback-heres-our-chance-to-stop-it-for-good/articleshow/81221876.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/the-coronavirus-is-plotting-a-comeback-heres-our-chance-to-stop-it-for-good/articleshow/81221876.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

## **Phase 2 of Covid vaccination: People with comorbidities will need medical certificate to get the jab**

Those getting the jabs will not have an option to choose their vaccines, and people with comorbidity will need a medical certificate from a physician before they get vaccinated, said an official who was briefed on the second phase of the vaccination drive

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/phase-2-of-covid-vaccination-people-with-comorbidities-will-need-medical-certificate-to-get-the-jab/articleshow/81215731.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/phase-2-of-covid-vaccination-people-with-comorbidities-will-need-medical-certificate-to-get-the-jab/articleshow/81215731.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

# Health News

## **MTA urges govt to include medical technology workforce for COVID-19 vaccination**

The Medical Technology Association of India (MTAI), which represents leading research-based medical technology companies, urged the government to include medical technology sector workforce in the target list of beneficiaries of COVID-19 vaccination due to the critical nature of their work

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/mtai-urges-govt-to-include-medical-technology-workforce-for-covid-19-vaccination/articleshow/81170646.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/mtai-urges-govt-to-include-medical-technology-workforce-for-covid-19-vaccination/articleshow/81170646.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

## **COVID-19: India's active caseload falls below 1.5 lakh; no fresh deaths in 21 states, UTs**

India's tally of active Covid-19 cases fell below the 1.5-lakh mark on Tuesday and was pegged at 1,47,306, comprising 1.34 per cent of the total caseload, the Union health ministry said, highlighting 21 states and UTs have not reported fresh fatalities in a 24-hour-period.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/covid-19-indias-active-caseload-falls-below-1-5-lakh-no-fresh-deaths-in-21-states-uts/articleshow/81170211.cms>

## **Centre set to charge for vaccines at private hospitals**

As India expands its public immunisation drive to senior citizens above 60 years and persons above 45 years with comorbidities, it would charge for the vaccine and up to ₹100 for vaccine administration at private hospitals.

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/centre-set-to-charge-for-vaccines-at-pvt-hospitals/articleshow/81234357.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/centre-set-to-charge-for-vaccines-at-pvt-hospitals/articleshow/81234357.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

# Health News

## **COVID-19: National positivity rate at 5.20 per cent**

India has registered a record in the number of COVID-19 cumulative tests, with over 21.15 crore samples tested, the Union Health Ministry said

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/covid-19-national-positivity-rate-at-5-20-percent/articleshow/81151592.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/covid-19-national-positivity-rate-at-5-20-percent/articleshow/81151592.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

## **Mission to vaccinate pregnant women and children - Indradhanush 3.0 - starts in Rajasthan**

The first phase of Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0 started in Rajasthan to administer vaccines to pregnant women and children up to two years. According to a Health Department spokesperson, the campaign will run for 15 days in two phases as directed by the Centre. Vaccines will be provided free of cost to children and pregnant women who are deprived of regular vaccinations.

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/mission-to-vaccinate-pregnant-women-and-children-indradhanush-3-0-starts-in-rajasthan/articleshow/81148523.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/mission-to-vaccinate-pregnant-women-and-children-indradhanush-3-0-starts-in-rajasthan/articleshow/81148523.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

## **Serum Institute of India receives Health Canada approval to supply vaccines to Canada**

Canada on Friday allowed Serum Institute of India (SII) and its Canadian partner Verity Pharma to supply the AstraZeneca/Oxford vaccine to the country.

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/serum-institute-of-india-receives-health-canada-approval-to-supply-vaccines-to-canada/articleshow/81232574.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/serum-institute-of-india-receives-health-canada-approval-to-supply-vaccines-to-canada/articleshow/81232574.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

# FICCI-EY Webinar on 'COVID Vaccine Roll-out: Key Learnings and Preparedness for Phase II'

Jan 22, 2021

The FICCI-EY Webinar on 'COVID Vaccine Roll-out: Key Learnings and Preparedness for Phase II' organized in collaboration with FICCI Lifesciences team with Govt Panelists - **Shri Amit Mohan Prasad**, Additional Chief Secretary, Govt of Uttar Pradesh, **Dr Ramasamy**, Commissioner Public Health and MD-NHM, Government of Maharashtra, **Dr K Madan Gopal**, Sr Consultant, NITI Aayog, GoI and **Prof R K Dhiman**, Director, SGPGIMS, Lucknow. The industry participation included - **Dr Alok Roy**, Chair-FICCI Health Services Committee and Chairman, Medica Group of Hospitals, **Dr Anil Kukreja**, Medical VP, AstraZeneca Pharma India, **Dr Mahesh Balgat**, PhD, Chief Operating Officer, Syngene International (Biocon Group of Companies), **Mr Pankaj Mehta**, Managing Director, Carrier Transicold, India & South Asia and **Dr Raj Shankar Ghosh**, Senior Adviser- Vaccine Delivery, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

The session focused upon:

- Preparedness for rolling out vaccine distribution- storage requirements at depot and vaccination centre
- Phase-wise population coverage, timelines
- Plan for roll-out in phase – II (private sector participation or augment existing capacity)
- Vaccine procurement (different manufacturer), efficacy, dosage, phase-wise population coverage
- Key bottlenecks in cold chain management (storage, transportation, and handling)
- Plans for increased cold chain capacity, distribution network and logistic hub
- Scope of improvement in effectiveness of vaccination drive

# FICCI-EY Webinar on 'COVID Vaccine Roll-out: Key Learnings and Preparedness for Phase II'



## Glimpses



Canada India Healthcare Summit 2021 (CIHS 2021), jointly organized by Canada India Foundation (CIF), Toronto Rehab Institute - UHN (TRI), FICCI and the Consulate General of India in Toronto (CGI) is scheduled to take place virtually on May 20-21, 2021 with the aim to further strengthen ties between Canada and India in the field of healthcare.

The Summit takes on great importance in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic endangering most of the world's population, including Canada and India and will feature experts in the areas of pandemic response, biotechnology and artificial intelligence. The Summit will also include a Powerplay Pitch Competition to award bright innovators in the field of healthcare. Further details about the Summit will be shared shortly.

### Deliverables of CIHS 2021 are:

- ✓ Enabling private sector, government, universities and research institutions in Canada and India to collaborate in exploring Biotechnology & AI driven healthcare solutions
- ✓ Understanding lessons learnt from managing the COVID-19 healthcare crisis
- ✓ Leveraging R&D in Healthcare, Biotechnology & AI to create economic opportunities and ensure better universal healthcare
- ✓ Helping to shape public policy in Canada and India to provide optimum healthcare to its residents through Public-Private Partnership (PPP)
- ✓ Coordinating the CIF/Kite Powerplay Pitch Competition and recognizing the winners of the competition

Launch Event held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 on Zoom Platform



# FICCI joins the Waterfalls Initiative



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
MINISTRY OF POSSIBILITIES  
A Virtual Ministry of the UAE Government



الإمارات العربية المتحدة  
وزارة الاقتصاد  
وزارة المتاحيات في حكومة الإمارات

## Waterfalls® Initiative for Continuous Education From UAE to the World



the DEPARTMENT  
of BEHAVIORAL  
REWARDS



Waterfalls Initiative for Continuous Education, an initiative launched by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of UAE and Ruler of Dubai with the aim to deliver continuous education for around 1 million doctor, physician, pharmacist, technician, and specialist in the hospital management sector and the humanitarian field. This unique project aims to support the front-liners across all medical and humanitarian fields, through a number of specialized webinars presented well-renowned local and international speakers and lecturers from across the world.

FICCI has partnered with UAE Government for the Waterfalls Initiative to support front-liners across the healthcare practices and specialities through these specialized webinars. UAE has taken a remarkable step in this direction by bringing all experts from various specializations on one platform in such challenging times, that will empower the medical and healthcare professionals around the world. COVID-19 has upended our global health systems and the recovery seems elusive, there is a need to address the gaps in healthcare access and skill sets of care providers for delivery of quality healthcare and achievement of Universal health coverage. This initiative so far has helped in sensitization of more than 111,517 doctors and specialists in the medical sector from 191 countries around the world has been made possible. Contributing towards enhancing participants' skills and experiences and assist in keeping them up-to-date with the latest developments in their fields.



# FICCI ANNUAL EXPO - A FEW GLIMPSES



## KEY BUSINESS STATISTICS OF JANUARY 2021

**Fresh Business Visitors**  
**972**

**Booth Visits**  
**2015**

**B2B Meetings**  
**537**

## Virtual Booth Subscription

### FICCI's Annual Exhibition continues beyond the AGM...

The sprawling Virtual Exhibition Centre plays host to exhibitors from across the globe, giving them a productive landscape to showcase their products and capabilities, project their achievements, and engage in discussions to advance their business prospects. The well-appointed booths allow virtual handshakes through video and chat, the B2B meeting rooms transform business relationships. The state-of-art auditorium is fully equipped to host large-format webinars and conferences, thus providing a world-class environment for global business.

#### Key highlights:

- ✓ Round-the-clock exhibitor access across all 365 days.
- ✓ Choose from a host of online options to find the products or services interested in with keyword search, sector-wise search, sort, and filter options to search an exhibitor of choice according to their geographical area.
- ✓ Send meeting requests and fix their meetings with the exhibitors as per convenience.
- ✓ Products and services showcased are segregated sector-wise in structured Exhibition Halls
- ✓ All events on this platform will be promoted extensively across India and the globe through regional chambers and sectoral associations which are FICCI members and through Indian Missions all over the world.

#### The standard Virtual Booth subscription modules are as follows:

1. **Subscription for 2 months:** INR 20,000 / USD 500 (Valid for 2 months)

2. **Annual Subscription:** INR 50,000 / USD 750 (Valid for 1 year)

\*15% Discount for FICCI members

\*Additional 18% GST

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FICCI @ficc\_india · Feb 4  
 #FICCINECM begins in presence of Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Ms @nsitharaman today.



NSitharamanOffice and 9 others



FICCI @ficc\_india · Feb 1  
 Supplementary Nutrition Programme & POSHAN Abhiyaan to be merged, Mission POSHAN 2.0 to be launched: Finance Minister Ms @nsitharaman.  
 #BudgetWithFICCI #UnionBudget2021 #Budget2021



POSHAN Abhiyaan and DAY-NRLM (Aajeevika)

You Retweeted  
 FICCI @ficc\_india · Feb 11  
 We welcome the statement made by the Prime Minister Mr @narendramodi on the significant role industry plays in India. We are grateful to him for the trust reposed in the private sector: Mr Uday Shankar, President, FICCI.

#FICCIspeaks



Uday Shankar and 9 others

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FICCI\_healthservices @ficc\_heal · Jan 5  
 Congratulations @ibhushan @AyushmanNHA @MoHFW\_INDIA @BCG and all the partners. NDHM will be the most significant element of post-COVID healthcare world  
 @dralokroy @HospitalHinduja @MahajanImaging @HospitalsApollo @lalpathlabs @ficc\_india

Dr. Indu Bhushan @ibhushan · Jan 5  
 This year be a part of the digital health revolution - #NDHM will lay the foundation of a secure & robust public digital health infra that can be leveraged by all entities – public & pvt. Watch this video for some live experiences on the benefits of NDHM.  
 you.tube/DHqnDd1hbug

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EY India @EY\_India · Dec 12, 2020  
 Dr. Paul also announced launch of the EY, @ficc\_india report on #CovidVaccination titled 'Protecting India: Public Private Partnership for vaccinating against COVID-19' at #FICCIAGM #InspiredIndia @PMOIndia

FICCI @ficc\_india · Dec 12, 2020  
 There are 6 vaccines currently under trial in our country. This is a landmark moment for Indian science and Indian industry: Dr VK Paul, Member, @NITIAYog at #FICCIAGM.  
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# FICCI Health Services Committee

**FICCI Health Services Committee constituted in 2006**, has been pivotal in facilitating interaction among stakeholders to jointly work towards creating the building blocks for achieving quality healthcare through initiatives like:

- Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) for tertiary, secondary and primary care
- National Costing Guidelines
- Categorization of healthcare providers
- National Electronic Health Records
- Innovations in Healthcare
- Tackling Non-communicable diseases
- Bridging the skill gaps and augmenting healthcare workforce
- Recommendations on recent programs and policies include **National Health Policy 2017, Ayushman Bharat, National Digital Health Mission, Personal Data Protection Bill, National Medical Commission etc**

**For COVID-19, FICCI has been actively engaged with various Ministries, NITI Aayog, WHO as well as the Empowered Groups under the Disaster Management Act 2005 at multiple levels through:**

- **Policy intervention**-submitted 100+ recommendations for strengthening Number of Specialist Doctors in India, COVID care infrastructure, testing, pricing of COVID treatment, fiscal and non-fiscal representations, public health strategies etc.
- **Strategic interventions**- mapping of isolations and ICU beds, ventilators, PPEs, testing kits; support for logistics
- **Information Education Communication material and eLearning modules on COVID care**

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**Full Page Advertisement: INR 75,000+GST**

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