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Covaxin

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Modi gets Covaxin shot as India expands drive
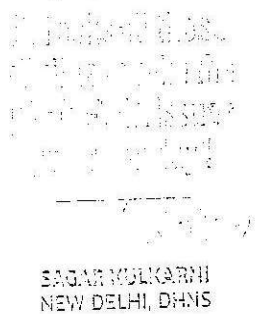
SAGAR KULKARNI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, Union ministers, chief ministers and senior politicians received their first shot of Covid-19 vaccines on Monday as India began its second phase of vaccination drive.

The prime minister drove to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) early Monday morning, where he was administered the home-grown Covaxin. He issued an appeal to all those eligible to get vaccinated.

Modi's brief visit to the hospital was full of symbolism — both on healthcare and political fronts. By using Bharat Biotech's vaccine, the prime minister also sought to put to rest doubts over the safety of

Prime Minister Narendra Modi being administered the first dose of Covid-19 vaccine at AIIMS in New Delhi on Monday. PTI

COVID VACCINATIONS ON MARCH 1

Co-WIN registrations on March 1	28 lakh
Citizen registrations	24.5 lakh
Total vaccinations on March 1 (till 7 pm)	4,27,072
60 years and above	1,28,530
45-59 years + comorbidities	18,850

the home-grown jab.

"Now, the vaccine hesitancy issue should be buried once for all," Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said.

The first day of the expanded vaccination drive also saw some glitches, with patients being turned away due to issues in registering on the Co-WIN software.

Modi sported an Assamese gamosa as he tried to send a message to voters in poll-bound states. At AIIMS, he was administered the vaccine by P Niveda, a nurse from Puducherry, with assistance from Rosamma Anil from Kerala.

Co-WIN app not for public

The government said vaccine registration has to be done through www.cowin.gov.in and not the Co-WIN app on Play Store. "The app is for administrators only," the health ministry said, amid complaints of difficulties in registrations.

102-yr-old gets 1st shot in B'luru

Subramanian K N, a 102-year-old retired army officer, received the first shot of Covid vaccine at Columbia Asia Hospital in Hebbal, Bengaluru. Amid Co-WIN chaos, 938 people got vaccinated at 22 hospitals in the city on day 1. Page 3

Third phase: Co-Win glitches, lack of communication hamper vaccination drive on Day One

AKHIL KADIDAL
BENGALURU, DHNS

An overloaded Co-Win vaccine portal and a breakdown in communications which prevented hundreds of vials of vaccines from being delivered to hospitals are some of the issues which plagued the inaugural day of the Phase III vaccination drive for the elderly and people with comorbidities on Monday.

According to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), a total of 938 people above the age of 60 were vaccinated in the city on Monday, but this number is only a fraction of the nearly 3,600 people who had signed up for vaccination on the Co-Win portal, a BBMP source said.

Rajendra Cholan, Special Commissioner (Health), BBMP, explained that out of the 22 sites selected to carry out vaccinations on Monday, 18 sites managed to attain some operability. "There was the problem with the remaining four," he said. These are: two Columbia Asia hospitals, C V Rama Hospital, Apollo Bommanahalli. Victoria Hospital, which is also an empanelled hospital, was not in the list. Each site has a target of 200 vaccinations per day.

BBMP Commissioner N Manjunath Prasad clarified 12 software issues which affected sites on Monday: in the vaccinator module, the list of beneficiaries not being visible; beneficiaries disappearing from the admin portal and inability of staff to mark beneficiaries as vaccinated; staff being unable to login into the vaccinator module; messy and overlapping timings scheduled for sessions; inability of staff to tag already registered vaccinator (supervisor plus vaccinator) to the present site as vaccinator; problems in adding vials option; a cumbersome interface which made searching for session sites in over 60 sheets.

Also, the portal made it difficult for staff to show the addition of a new vaccinator and the names of registered beneficiaries were not reflecting and if reflected there were glitches with validating them with the registered phone number. Lastly, vaccinator names were not reflecting in the portal as it had in the previous Co-Win portal.

According to Dr Thrilok Chandra, Commissioner, Department of Health and Family Welfare, the issue was largely limited to Bengaluru Urban, although he clarified that it had also hit five other sites in other parts of the state. "We are holding another training session at 9 am tomorrow to weed out the problems which surfaced today," Dr Chandra told DH.

C V Raman Hospital also reported that in addition to the Co-Win problem, they did not receive vaccine vials. "There is no shortage of vaccines. The vials were supplied to the BBMP but due to some miscommunication, they were not transferred to the hospitals," an official said.
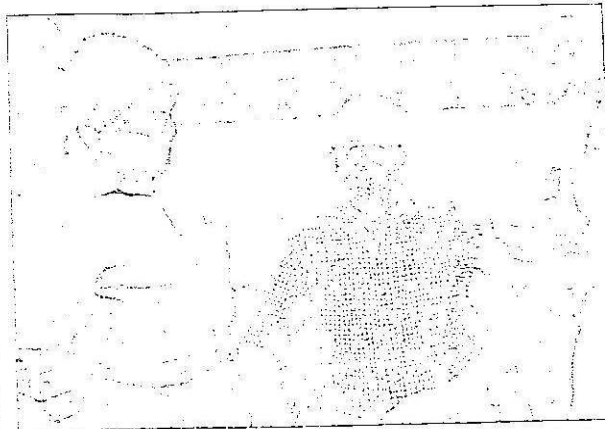
Ninety-nine-year-old Joseph Gonsalves receives his first dose of Covid-19 vaccine at Wenlock Hospital in Mangaluru on Monday.

HOW SENIOR CITIZENS CAN REGISTER FOR VACCINATION

- Use Co-Win app, Aarogya Setu app or log into cowin.gov.in
- Enter your mobile number
- Get an OTP to create your account
- Fill in your name, age, gender and upload an identity document
- If more than 45 years old, upload doctor's certificate as comorbidity proof. A downloadable guidance note has been uploaded on the union health ministry's website that has a co-morbidities certificate in Annexure 1
- One can carry a hard copy of this certificate, get it stamped and signed by a doctor listing the comorbidity. Any registered medical practitioner can sign the form along with his registration number, and attach medical records based on which he/she is signing the certificate.
- Choose centre, date
- Up to four appointments can be made via one mobile number

Senior citizens can register themselves at common service centres also.

List of all private hospitals acting as Covid vaccination centres available at:
a) https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/CGHSEmphospitals.xlsx
b) https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf PMJAYPRIVATEHOSPITALSCONSOLIDATED.xlsx