

2021 South Asia COVID-19 Outbreak

India and Nepal

Situation Report #9



19 October 2021

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Overall, COVID-19 new infections have declined in India, but health officials remain concerned about a possible 3rd wave of infections.
- In partnership with Project HOPE, ChildFund India has provided 40 PHC/CHCs in nine districts across four Indian States with medical equipment, including a total of 28,097 essential medical items distributed to 2,500 frontline workers.
- In partnership with Project HOPE, SARD has completed equipping an ICU unit at the Tilak Nagar Colony Hospital with medical equipment, which includes 8 ICU beds, 8 bedside lockers and 8 bedside tables.
- In partnership with Project HOPE, MY-HEART has distributed medical equipment in the Odisha district, namely, ventilators, oximeters, disinfection chambers, and oxygen concentrators. A total of 1,044 Accredited Health Activists (ASHAs) were trained in providing COVID-19 services to the affected population.
- Project HOPE and PNMf have completed the distribution of a large shipment of medical supplies and equipment to health facilities in all 7 provinces of Nepal.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

India

As of today, 986 million vaccine doses have been administered in India, with a total of nearly 281 (20.5%) million people fully vaccinated and nearly 50% having received at least one dose of the vaccine. While COVID-19 related deaths have decreased 23% in the past month, over 108,000 new COVID-19 cases were reported in the past week. Despite the decrease in new infections, experts have not ruled out the possibility of a 3rd wave of COVID-19.

Quick Facts

- India and Nepal are still experiencing outbreaks of COVID-19 exacerbated by shortages of critical supplies and barriers to vaccine access.
- India has recorded 731,151 new cases of COVID-19 in the past month.
- Nepal is facing a death toll of over 11,000 with an overall infection rate of 803,878 total cases.
- Project HOPE has been working with local partners to mobilize procurements and shipment of critical medical supplies to the hardest hit regions, as well as to build healthcare capacity moving forward.

Nepal

According to the Ministry of Health (MOH), there have been a total of 11,293 COVID-19 fatalities in Nepal. As of today, there have been 21,650 new COVID-19 cases across the country in the past month. While there have been ongoing vaccination efforts for vaccination in Nepal, there have also been many barriers to vaccine access, leading to only 22.6% of the population being fully vaccinated. As the potential of a third wave closes in there is an increased importance for strengthening healthcare capacity in supplies, infrastructure, and training.

PROJECT HOPE'S RESPONSE

In partnership with Project HOPE, ChildFund supported 40 primary health and community health centers (PHC/CHC) in nine districts across four States with 12,650 pieces of medical equipment necessary to save the lives of those infected by COVID-19. These PHC/CHCs cover 2,679 villages and an approximate population of 6.5 million people. The medical supplies donated include oxygen concentrators, oxygen flow meters, BiPAP machines, several types of oxygen masks, and pulse oximeters. The estimated number of COVID-19 patients who have already been treated with this equipment is 6,241. These communities saw a reduction in, resulting in a 70% reduction in COVID-19 related deaths (equals 1,200 lives saved).

In addition, front line workers received training on COVID-19 appropriate behaviors, importance of vaccination and personal hygiene. Also, a total of 28,097 essential medical items were distributed to 2,500 frontline workers to protect themselves from infection while providing services to children and the public.

ChildFund India organized a campaign on COVID-19 appropriate behaviors, vaccination hesitancy and vaccinate uptake. 90 COVID-19 campaign events were held reaching over 8.9 million people in 3,136 villages/slums. Another 970,914 people were reached with 431,136 pieces of IEC materials. The vaccination promotion campaign impacted a total of 147,599 people who were mobilized, referred and successfully vaccinated with the first dose.

Society for All Round Development (SARD) procured all the medical equipment needed to equip the ICU unit at the Tilak Nagar Colony hospital in New Delhi. All the equipment has been installed in the hospital and the medical doctors as well as all other designated medical personnel received training on how to operate the equipment. With generous support from Project HOPE, SARD continues to support the Canter IEC campaign to increase outreach and COVID-19 vaccine uptake in rural and urban areas. This includes COVID-19 appropriate behavior mass awareness sensitization campaign at different PHC/CHC locations.



Figure 1. Hospital beds being set up in the ICU units. Photo by Naved Mohammad for Project HOPE, 2021

In Odisha, the COVID-19 Canter Campaign reached 139 villages in 4 districts. A total of 853 Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) were also trained across the 4 districts. In Delhi, the Canter COVID-19 campaign reached 2,938 children, 1,198 men, and 3,478 women.



Figure 2. Handing over of equipment at District Head quarter hospital of Malkangiri District. Photo by Alok Mohanty for Project HOPE, 2021



Figure 3. One of the Disinfection Chambers purchased with the support of Project HOPE. Photo by Alok Mohanty for Project HOPE, 2021

March of Youth for Health, Education and Rural Trust (MY-HEART) has distributed medical equipment across several Odisha districts; equipment such as ventilators, oximeters, disinfection chambers, and oxygen patients with their pulse oximeters; 2,200 visitors per day at 6 health institutions are disinfected in the disinfection chambers thereby reducing concentrations. Because of this lifesaving medical equipment: the District Headquarter hospital of Malkangiri has a ventilator to treat critical COVID-19 patients; ASHA workers can now measure the oxygen level of their the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The 1,044 trained ASHAs are providing COVID-19 services to a population of 10,44,000. The supply of equipment at health institutions greatly increased the availability of PPE for use by medical providers and those directly involved with COVID-19 testing and treatment.

In Nepal, Project HOPE and its local NGO partner, Pratiman-Neema Memorial Foundation (PNMF), have completed the distribution of essential medical supplies in twelve districts of Lumbini Province as part of the COVID-19 crisis support and relief in Nepal. A total of 4,580 medical health professionals (doctors, nurses, medical administrators and students) were trained through the online Vaccination program.

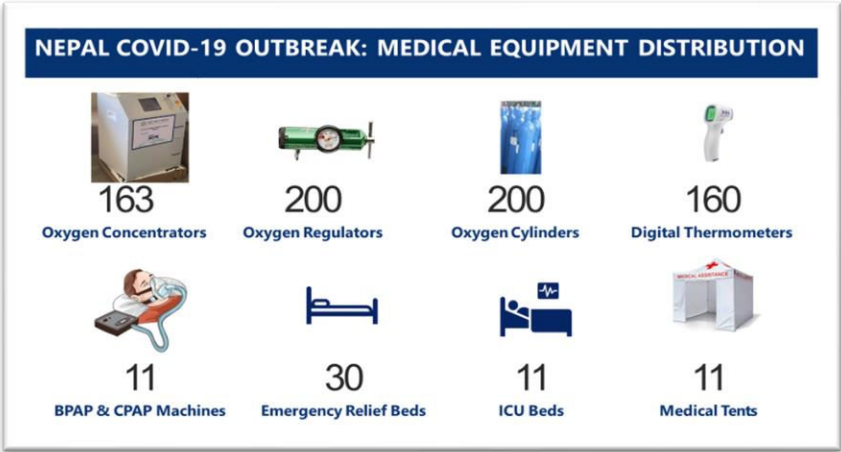


Figure 4. Medical equipment handed over to hospitals and health care centers in Lumbini Province, Nepal.

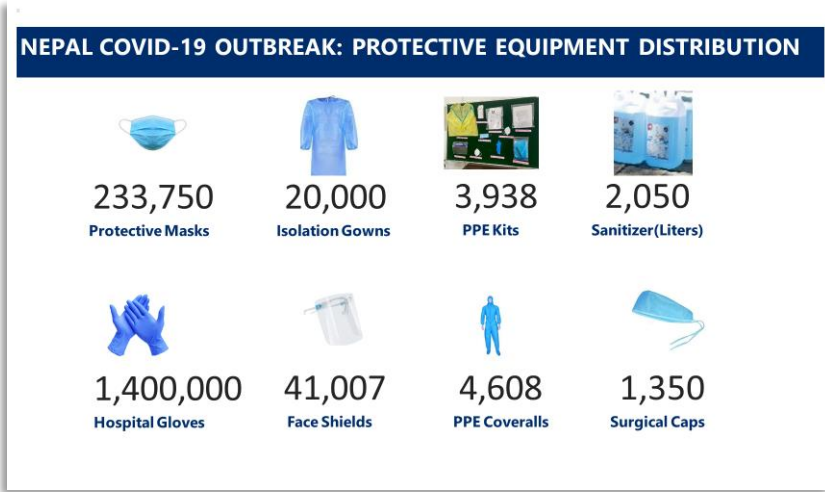


Figure 5. Personal Protective Equipment handed over to hospitals and health centers in Lumbini Province, Nepal.

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