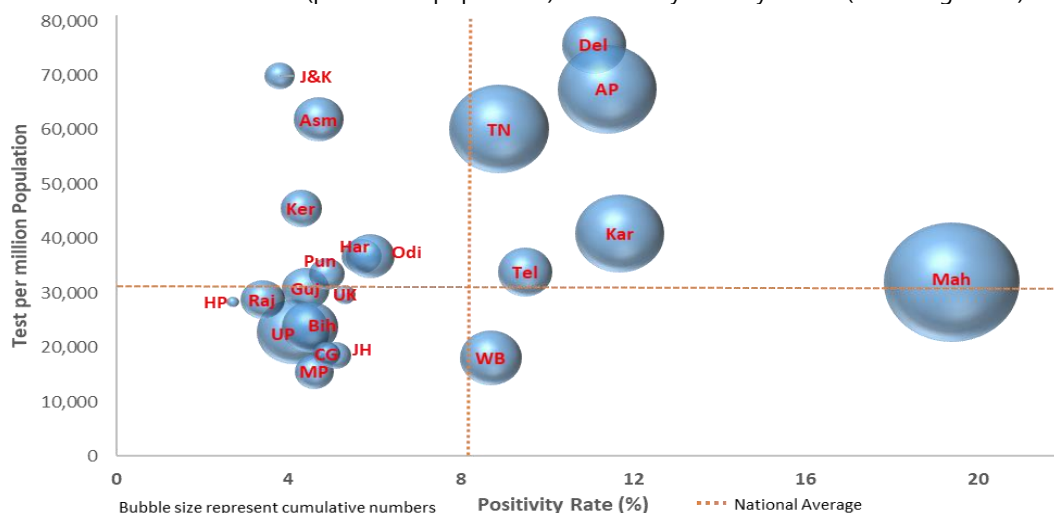


PANDEMIC IN NUMBERS

(As of September 3)

- Numbers continue to rise, reaching **3.8 million** cases, the third highest in the world behind USA and Brazil
- Daily numbers crossed **77,000** for the first time during the last week, highest daily increase in the world. Each successive 300,000 cases added in just 4 days
- With a recovery rate of 77.1%, over **2.9 million** have recovered to date
- Case fatality rate is 1.7% with approximately **67,000** deaths reported to date
- A few states emerging as **hotspots** due to recent surge in daily numbers
- 55% of cases recorded in August came from districts which are predominately rural

COVID Tests (per million population) & Positivity Rate by States (as of August 31)



The levels of testing in many states are below the national average. Maharashtra stands out with highest number of cases and positivity rate.

Key Highlights

UNFPA India is supporting three pillars of the UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19.



Pillar 1: HEALTH FIRST

Protecting Health Services and Systems during the Crisis

INSPIRATIONAL STORY



Bujhawan, a 19-year-old visually impaired boy, is an active member of UNFPA's youth collective in Patna, Bihar. The Patna Municipal Corporation (PMC) recognized his musical talent and melodious voice and made him the brand ambassador for countering stigma and discrimination against sanitation workers and creating health-related awareness on COVID-19. His [song](#) is used as a jingle in PMC vehicles to promote waste segregation, cleanliness and general awareness about COVID-19.

Maintaining Critical Reproductive Health Services

- 946 medical faculty and students oriented on clinical approaches to STI / RTI and family planning services during COVID-19.
- 30 faculty members of Jodhpur medical college oriented on youth friendly health services.
- 512 link workers in Gujarat oriented on sexual abuse, safe abortion, cervical cancer and protection issues.
- UNFPA consultants continue to undertake health facility visits to monitor availability and quality of FP services at the facility and community levels in Aspirational Districts of Odisha and Rajasthan.
- Family planning progress and logistics score cards developed and shared with the Government of Rajasthan; online tool created for fixed day family planning services.
- Resource materials in eight critical areas of the 'LaQshaya' programme developed in partnership with the Government of Rajasthan.
- Roadmap for strengthening reproductive services in terms of 3Cs - Continuity, availability of Commodities and closer to Community - developed in Odisha in partnership with the Government and development partners.

Technical Support for Programme Implementation

- To strengthen the midwifery component of nursing education, the first batch of 34 nursing faculty trained in a 6-day programme on evidence based maternal care, basic EmONC, rights-based FP, youth friendly SRH services and gender-based violence.
- 40 health service providers trained on quality family planning services and 35 block programme managers trained on onsite mentoring to improve services in seven districts of Rajasthan.
- 127 Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) of residential schools trained in basic adolescent health screening and counselling.
- Online mentoring of 79 RKSK counsellors from 10 districts of Rajasthan in partnership with the Government.
- Exit interviews with clients of family planning services conducted and shared with the Government to gear up the services in Odisha.
- 74 chemists from five intervention districts oriented on family planning commodities and youth friendly services.



Pillar 2: PROTECTING PEOPLE

Social protection and Basic Services

Secure Sustained Learning for Adolescents

- More than 250 resource persons from 12 states trained for the School Health Programme under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme jointly coordinated with the Ministries of Health and Education.
- 778 matrons from residential schools of the Department of Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste Development Department, Government of Odisha trained on adolescent counselling.
- Guidelines issued to districts for implementation of the BBBP programme (Save Daughters and Educate Them) and girl friendly gram panchayats (measures for their safety and linking them to government schemes) in Rajasthan.

Address Gender-Based Violence

- 576 staff from one stop centres, family counselling centres and special cells for women in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Bihar trained on Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and on counselling of survivors and their families.
- 432 counsellors further trained on assessment, prevention and management of suicide and self-harm.
- To strengthen response to violence against women, a directory of helpline numbers for women and girls in distress, with details on timings of operation, operator qualifications, has been compiled. This will be shared with the network of CSOs working on this issue for reaching out to those operational in their area.

Reaching the Most Vulnerable

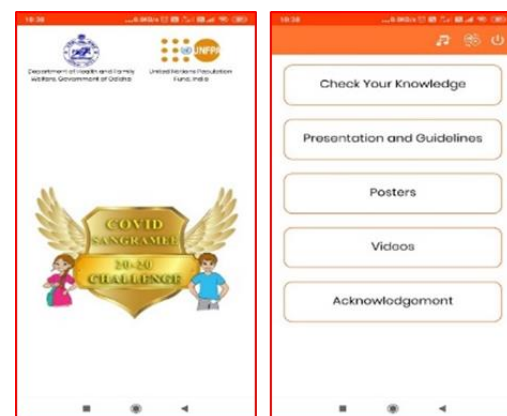
- 5,295 sanitation workers in slums of Patna, Bihar trained on safe waste disposal and ensuring safety and hygiene to prevent COVID-19 transmission.
- COVID sensitive dignity kits provided to 2,320 women and girls from 55 shelter homes – 'Swadhar Greha' in Odisha.
- 3,939 women and girls provided with COVID sensitive dignity kits in two flood affected districts – Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi in Bihar.



Pillar 3: SOCIAL COHESION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Inclusive Social Dialogue

- A radio show on the role of youth in combating COVID-19, Stigma and Discrimination and COVID Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) broadcast on All India Radio, Rajasthan.
- A panel discussion on All India Radio, Odisha broadcast on International Youth Day (August 12) focusing on the role of young people on COVID Appropriate Behaviour (CAB), dispelling myths and combating stigma during the pandemic.
- 20 messages on youth related themes in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic broadcast on private radio channel, Red FM across the State capitals of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Rajasthan and the National Capital Region.
- 65 programme officers from the National Service Scheme (NSS) in Odisha oriented to initiate a campaign to showcase youth involvement in the fight against COVID-19.
- UNFPA developed mobile application "[COVID SANGRAMEE 20-20 CHALLENGE](#)" launched by the health department in Odisha to reach young people with correct information and messages on COVID-19 and address Stigma and Discrimination.
- 9,168 households belonging to different resident welfare associations (RWA's) oriented on dry-wet waste segregation, safe disposal of gloves and masks and safe disposal of sanitary napkins in Patna, Bihar.



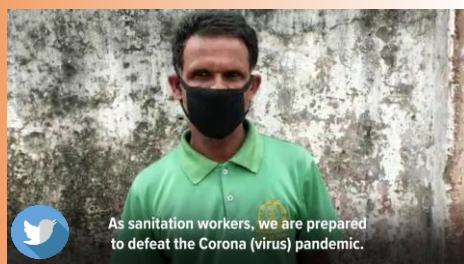
COVID Sangramee mobile app



A flood-affected girl receiving COVID sensitive dignity kit in Bihar.

3 SIMPLE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO STOP COVID-19

A video promoting COVID Appropriate Behaviours to stop COVID-19 and break the chain of transmission



Sanitation workers on the frontlines of COVID-19 response share their experiences



Reaching out to senior citizens in remote and vulnerable areas to create awareness on COVID-19, provide medical assistance and distribute essential items.



#YouthAgainstCOVID challenge to mobilise young people to keep their friends, families, and communities safe



"Conversations with Change Champions", a webinar with young change makers for International Youth Day 2020

STAFF CORNER

(Life during pandemic)



"...our office helped us seamlessly transition into the digital platform through the efficient use of technology and communications."

- Laetitia Mukhim
UNFPA, Delhi

We look forward to your feedback and suggestions! Drop us an email at india.office@unfpa.org.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Video promoting COVID Appropriate Behaviours to stop the spread of COVID-19 and break the chain of transmission.
- Video of sanitation workers sharing their experience working in the frontlines to stop the spread of COVID-19 and to counter stigma and discrimination.
- Youth volunteers from Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (National Adolescents Health Programme) encouraging people to adopt COVID Appropriate Behaviours ([Link1](#)) ([Link2](#))

MEDIA COVERAGE

- A webinar on "Conversations with Change Champions" organised for International Youth Day on August 11 and broadcast live on [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#). The webinar was interspersed with messages on COVID-19 and the role of youth.
- A story on [Humanitarian Heroes](#) published on UNFPA India website. Story of 'Bank Madam' Ms Salami Shashankar from Mission Uday project tweeted by the Chief Minister of Odisha, Mr. Naveen Patnaik and subsequently published in the Orissa Post and [UN News](#) (Hindi)
- Ongoing dissemination of videos for digital campaign #YouthAgainstCOVID19 by UNFPA and PREZI. ([Link](#))

Summary in Numbers				
Transformative Results	Strategic Priorities	Indicators	Target (Dec 2020)	Achievement (Till August, 2020)
End unmet need for family planning	Ensuring the supply of modern contraceptives and other reproductive health commodities	Number of states in which advisory and guidelines issued for continuity of FP services due to UNFPA's advocacy and technical support	4	4
		Number of eligible couples among marginalized communities provided condoms and oral-contraceptive pills	5,000	3,615
		Number of couples from marginalized communities counselled on birth spacing	5,000	3,741
End preventable maternal deaths	Continuity of sexual and reproductive health services and interventions, including protection of the health workforce	Number of doctors trained on maternal care services leading to safe deliveries in the context of COVID-19	15,000	13,965
		Number of health professionals trained on SRH services ensuring continuity of critical services during COVID-19	90,000	77,550
		Number of front-line health functionaries trained on preventive measures and maintaining essential SRH services during COVID-19	150,000	131,287
		Pregnant women counselled on birth preparedness and institutional delivery	3,000	1,720
		Number of Aspirational Districts in which implementation support provided	9	9
		Number of N95 and three-layered surgical masks provided to health departments in UNFPA priority states	500,000	400,100
		Number of officials from Women and Child Dept. oriented on their role in addressing violence against women and girls in the context of COVID-19	1,000	3,140
End gender-based violence and harmful practices	Addressing gender-based violence and harmful practices	Number of attendees in 10 batches of training sessions on strengthening GBV response services organized for staff and counsellors from one stop centres, shelter homes and women's cells in five states	5,000	4,738
		Number of government officials and filed functionaries trained on action plan to end child marriage in Odisha	2,500	2,400