

Present Scenario of COVID Pandemic in India

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EDITORIAL

In the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak, India has seen a tremendous increase in cases over the last three weeks. As of April 30, India had reported 33 610 confirmed cases and 1075 deaths from 32 states and union territories. In addition to the nationwide shutdown, India has boosted its testing rate and significantly improved its health-care sector in order to tackle COVID-19. With a population of over 1.3 billion people and a high population density relative to the rest of the world, India's struggle against COVID-19 has been complicated by a lack of universal access to clean water, as well as its generally poor socioeconomic position. Failure to contain the pandemic in India might have severe effects, resulting in thousands of deaths and widespread cases. The World Health Organization has indicated that the "future of the pandemic will depend on how India handles it," implying that if the virus spreads unchecked; India might become the next COVID-19 hotspot.

We've outlined the current state of the epidemic in India, as well as the several hurdles the country has in its fight against COVID-19. We have detailed India's response to the pandemic during the first months using an analytical method (from 17 January to 20 April 2020).

Between January and March 2020, India issued travel advisories and established graded international border procedures. Early in March, the number of cases began to rise. States tightened restrictions on movement. The lockdown revealed contextual weaknesses and prompted countermeasures. To respond to the pandemic, India used existing legislative frameworks, institutional processes, and administrative rules. Nonetheless, the initial battle's cross-sectoral impact was significant and could be long-lasting. Evidence-based policy and planning tailored to local needs and vulnerabilities would have benefited the country even more. India's experience teaches governments, particularly LMICs, the importance of having contextualised pandemic response strategies.

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