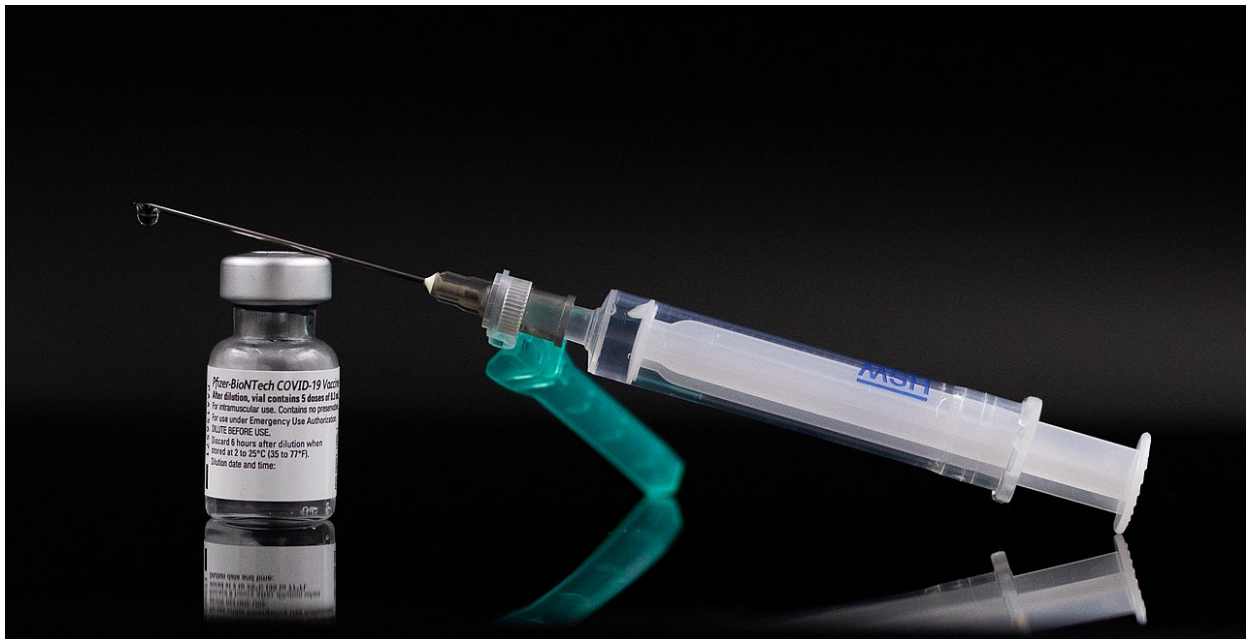


Moving towards India@75

February 2021

IN FOCUS

A historic vaccination drive: CII forms a task force to ensure smooth roll out in India



India began the world's biggest and most ambitious vaccination drive on January 16, 2020 with the intent to inoculate 30 crore people in the first phase. The pandemic has already made a strong case for the collaboration between government and the Industry in different aspects of growth and development; the vaccine roll-out is perhaps the most critical and immediate area where the two can partner for the greater good.

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has formed a task force on COVID vaccine to support the government plans. The task force is chaired by Mr T V Narendran, President-Designate, CII, and CEO & Managing Director of Tata Steel Limited, and co-chaired by Dr Randeep Guleria, Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) & Chairman, CII Public Health Council. The CII taskforce has already tabled policy submissions at critical venues. Some of the important submissions are as below:

- The private sector be utilised from phase one itself. The vaccination drive can be undertaken in a public-private partnership model.

- Vaccination be brought under the purview of CSR to encourage the private sector to inoculate its workforce, among others.
- More categories of essential service providers, including teachers, be considered for inoculation in the first phase.

68 CII offices across the country will help the task force to collate relevant information for the central and state government. This will include data on cold chain storage, transportation facilities, private medical schools, nursing homes, clinics, doctors, specialists and nurses. The CII state offices have created similar task forces at the state level and are engaging with the District Magistrates and local administrations in each of the respective states to support in distribution and inoculation of the COVID vaccine at the district level and block level. In addition, CII is working towards providing support in terms of communication, advocacy, training and capacity building, point session sites, and technological support.

VOLUNTEERING / PARTNERSHIPS / CONVERSATIONS

Over a 1000 acts of kindness: National Volunteering Week 2021 triumphs over the Pandemic



- India@75 organised the 8th edition of National Volunteering Week (NVW) from the 18th–24th January. The theme this year was *An Act of Kindness*. India@75's NGO partners design volunteering activities specifically for this week, with the intent to engage more and more people in social causes and mainstream volunteering in India.
- This year 30 partners, including NGOs, VIOs and corporates, organized over 150 activities to engage volunteers on different issues. From planting trees and feeding strays to street plays on Covid-19 to self-defence classes for women, people from across India signed up for the cause

they believed in. Over 18,627 people directly benefitted from these activities. These numbers, updated to January 28, are expected to go up further.

- An intensive social media campaign was run to generate momentum for the National Volunteering Week, 2021. The campaign also focused on spreading awareness about the online collaboration platform, The National Volunteering Grid.
- A virtual capacity building workshop on 'Social Media Outreach' was organised on December 28 for grassroot NGOs under Project Manthan, a Pro Bono volunteering initiative.
- India@75 catalyzed partnerships between CRISIL and eVidyaloka Trust for employee volunteering initiatives to support children with online tutoring and video content.
- India@75 supported Dainik Bhaskar in a pan-India volunteers outreach for the COVID vaccination awareness drive under Nagrik foundation's flagship initiative – SDG Choupal.

A platform for care: CII launches Sambhav, for PwDs and their caregivers



The Confederation of Indian Industry launched the India Business and Disability Network (CII-IBDN) last year to further the cause of People with Disabilities (PwDs), especially amongst corporates. CII IBDN has now launched Sambhav, a networking platform for persons with disabilities and their caregivers. Sambhav has been launched in partnership with the NatWest Group India (formerly RBS India).

This first-of-a-kind online platform will bring together persons with disabilities, their families and caregivers as well as experts and volunteers working in the disability field. Members will be able to

seek recommendations, post queries, provide advice and suggestions, and share life experiences. Experts on the platform will respond to specific queries posted by community members.

Walking the Inclusive Talk: 22 organizations qualify to win CII-ITC Sustainability Awards



India has varying and often conflicting needs that requires it to balance its short-term growth imperatives with long term development needs. This makes the case for engaging Industry deeply in the sustainability story. The CII-ITC Sustainability Awards, instituted in 2006 by CII-ITC Centre of Sustainable Development, works to this end. It recognises and rewards organizations that are working towards being more sustainable and inclusive in their activities. The Awards are a part of multi-pronged efforts of the Centre to create capacities in business in the area of sustainable growth. The 15th CII-ITC Sustainability Awards, announced in December 2020, saw 22 winners in all. The winners were:

Corporate Excellence

Outstanding Accomplishment

- Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd

Commendation for Significant Achievement

- Dr Reddy's Laboratories Ltd
- NTPC Ltd
- Tata AutoComp GY Batteries Pvt. Ltd
- Genpact India Pvt. Ltd
- Mahindra Holidays & Resorts India Ltd
- Hindustan Zinc Ltd
- Domain Excellence
- Environment Management Excellence
- Kings International Ltd
- Nestlé India Ltd

Commendation for Significant Achievement

- Avaada Energy Pvt. Ltd; Avaada Solar Energy Pvt. Ltd
- Harihar Polyfibers, Harihar Grasim Industries Ltd

- JSW Cement Ltd; Nandyal Works

Corporate Social Responsibility

Excellence

- Avaada Energy Pvt. Ltd; Avaada Solar Energy Pvt. Ltd
- Cairn Oil & Gas, Vedanta Ltd
- Sterlite Technologies Ltd
- Schneider Electric IT Business India Pvt. Ltd
- NTPC Ltd

Commendation for Significant Achievement

- Bharat Aluminium Co. Ltd
- The Ramco Cements Ltd; Alathiyur Works
- THDC India Ltd
- DP World

Biodiversity

Excellence

- Mahindra Holidays & Resorts India Ltd

COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH



"Culturally, we look at demographic dividend in a narrow economic sense. This is missing the woods for the trees because it ignores the potential of our youth to shape a very different country. The young have empathy, intellect and idealism. They are the first ones on the street for a reason; history has shown repeatedly, the young love a cause."

[Read the full blog by Chandrajit Banerjee](#)

COMING UP

India@75 Foundation is in the process of organizing a virtual panel discussion on rural development in February, 2021. Its objective would be to build collaborations to ensure sustainable last mile service delivery. Another one in the pipeline is on collaborative urbanization. Both these discussions will have eminent panels. Announcements will be made shortly.

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