

RISING TOLL

Asia becomes second region to exceed 10 million virus cases

Behind only Latin America, Asia accounts for about one-fourth of the global caseload of 42.1 million of the virus

REUTERS
October 24

ASIA SURPASSED 10 million infections of the new coronavirus on Saturday, the second-heaviest regional toll in the world, according to a Reuters tally, as cases continue to mount in India despite a slowdown and sharp declines elsewhere.

Behind only Latin America, Asia accounts for about one-fourth of the global caseload of 42.1 million of the virus. With over 163,000 deaths, the region accounts for some 14% of the global Covid-19 toll.

The Reuters tally is based on official reporting by countries. The true numbers of cases and deaths are likely much higher, experts say, given deficiencies in testing and potential underreporting in many countries.

Despite the Asian spikes, the region overall has reported improvement in handling the pandemic in recent weeks, with daily caseloads slowing in places like India – a sharp contrast to the Covid-19 resurgence seen in Europe and North America.

Within the region, South Asia led by India is the worst affected, with nearly 21% of the reported global coronavirus cases and 12% of deaths. This contrasts with countries like China and New Zealand that have crushed in-



An Iranian man and his daughter get disinfected before they enter a kindergarten

REUTERS

fections and Japan, where Covid-19 had been stubbornly entrenched but not accelerating.

India is the worst-hit country in the world after the United States, although infections are slowing in the world's second-most populous country. India is reporting more than 57,000 cases of the virus a day, viewed on a weekly average, with 58 new cases per 10,000 people in Asia's third-largest economy, according to a Reuters analysis.

India is averaging 764 Covid-19 deaths a day, the worst in the world and accounting for one in every 13 global pandemic deaths.

The country has reported nearly 7.8 million infections, behind the US tally of 8.5 million, and nearly 118,000 deaths, versus 224,128 in the United States. Unlike the recent US surge, however, In-

dia's slowdown saw the lowest daily caseload in nearly three months on Wednesday.

But India's infections may surge again, doctors fear, with a holiday approaching and winter bringing more severe pollution from farmers burning stubble, worsening the breathing difficulties that many Covid-19 patients suffer.

India's eastern neighbour Bangladesh is Asia's second-worst hit country, with nearly 400,000 cases. But daily infections have slowed to 1,453, less than 40% of the July peak.

Although the pandemic is slowing in Bangladesh, the world's biggest apparel producer after China faces harsh recession as a second wave of Covid-19 hits key markets in Europe and the United States.

Even if the country is making progress on controlling the disease, leaders of the key

garment sector say international retailers are delaying orders or demanding steep price cuts, forcing them to lay off their workers.

Some 1 million workers were furloughed or laid off. About one-third of those have been rehired since July, according to union leaders.

In Southeast Asia, Indonesia surpassed the Philippines last week as the worst-hit nation with more than 370,000 infections.

The world's largest Muslim-majority nation, Indonesia has struggled to get its outbreak under control.

With the country due to host soccer's under-20 World Cup next year, the government is racing to secure a supply of vaccines still under development, which some epidemiologists say means seeking a "silver bullet" solution before full vaccine efficacy and safety is known.

61% of Covid-19 recoveries reported from six states, UTs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, October 24

ABOUT 61 % OF the total recovered cases from Covid-19 are from six states and UTs of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi, the Union health ministry said on Saturday.

Around 70,16,046 people have so far recuperated from the disease, pushing the national recovery rate to 89.78 % on Saturday, it said. "About 61 % of the total recovered cases from Covid-19 are from six states and Union territories (UTs) of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi," the ministry said.

While Maharashtra recorded 20.6 % of the total recoveries, 10.9 % recovered cases were from Andhra Pradesh, 9.9 % from Karnataka, 9.4 % from Tamil Nadu, 6.1 % from Uttar Pradesh and 4.1 % from Delhi, it said.

In a statement, the health ministry said latest recoveries have exceeded the fresh cases in the recent days, with 67,549 Covid-19 patients having recovered and discharged in the last 24 hours. "A total of 53,370 new con-



Nasal swab being collected at a testing centre in Hyderabad

India reports 53,370 fresh cases in 24 hours

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, October 24

INDIA'S COVID-19 TALLY climbed to 78.14 lakh with 53,370 fresh cases in a day, while 70,16,046 people have so far recuperated pushing the national recovery rate to 89.78 % on Saturday, the Union health ministry said. The total number of Coronavirus cases mounted to 78,14,682 and the death toll to 1,17,956, with the

novel coronavirus virus claiming 650 lives in a span of 24 hours in the country. The Covid-19 case fatality rate has further declined to 1.51 %. There are 6,80,680 active cases of coronavirus infection in the country which comprises 8.71 % of the total caseload, the ministry data said. According to ICMR, a cumulative total of 10,13,82,564 samples have been tested up to October 23.

Russia's Sberbank to host 2020 AI contest in Dec, expects large Indian participation

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, October 24

RUSSIA'S LARGEST LENDER Sberbank will hold its next Artificial Intelligence Journey, an annual global conference of AI and data science, in December and expects large-scale Indian participation including for an online AI contest for students and others. The event, which was previously scheduled for November, will now be held from December 3-5, 2020, Sberbank said in a statement. Officials

said the bank is expecting large-scale participation from India for the contest as well as for the conference. The bank has billed AI Journey as the largest platform about AI and its application in Russia, abroad and the event is being organised in cooperation with leading

Russian and foreign technology companies. In 2019, AI Journey was held offline with more than 150 leading industry experts as speakers.

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NOTICE
Pursuant to the Regulations 29(1)(a) and 47(1)(a) of Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Saturday, 31st October, 2020 inter alia to consider and approve the Un-audited Financial Results of the Company for the quarter and six months ended 30th September, 2020.

Information regarding above is also available on (a) Company's website viz. www.konarkgroup.co.in (b) Stock Exchange website viz. www.bseindia.com (c) www.secdisclosure.gov.in

For Konark Synthetic Limited
Sd/-
Mehnuddin Khan
Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

Place: Mumbai
Date: 24 October, 2020

'Antibodies detectable up to seven months post virus onset'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
London, October 24

ANTIBODIES AGAINST THE novel coronavirus follow a classic pattern with a rapid increase within the first three weeks after symptoms, and detectable up to seven months post contracting the disease, according to a new study which assessed 300 patients infected with the virus and 198 post-Covid-19 volunteers. According to the research, published in the European Journal of Immunology, the participants had antibodies with confirmed neutralisation activity for up to six months post infection with the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

The scientists, led by Marc Veldhoen from Instituto de Medicina Molecular (IMM) in Portugal, monitored the antibody levels of over 300 Covid-19 hospital patients and healthcare workers, 2500 university staff, and 198 post-Covid volunteers. They setup an in-house sensitive specific and versatile Covid-19 serology test.

The study revealed that 90 % of subjects have detectable antibodies up to seven months post contracting Covid-19. It also found that age was not a confounding factor in levels of antibodies produced, but disease severity is. "Our immune system recognises the virus SARS-CoV-2 as harmful and produces antibodies in response to it, which helps to fight the virus," Veldhoen said.

"The results of this six months cross-sectional study show a classic pattern with a rapid increase of antibody levels within the first three weeks after Covid-19 symptoms and, as expected, a reduction to intermediate levels thereafter," he added.

BHOPAL SMART CITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
Zone-14, Bhopal Municipal Corporation, BHEL, Govindpura, Bhopal-462023 (M.P.)
Phone : 0755-2477770 Email: tenderqueries@smarthbhopal.city / www.smartcitybhupal.org

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST Bhopal Date: 21/10/2020

Bhopal Smart City Development Corporation Limited को और से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु MPBSCDCL/ TENDER NO. -140 ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:- Bhopal Smart City Development Corporation Limited (BSCDCL) invites Expression of Interest for selection of service providers for Installation, Commissioning, Operate, Maintain & Finance E Bike Sharing System in Bhopal Smart City for further details & registration please visit mptenders.gov.in/ (Tender No. 140) Contact: 0755-2477770 दस्तावेज एवं निविदा संबंधित विस्तृत जानकारी www.mptenders.gov.in पर देखी जा सकती है।

Sd/-
C.E. (P)
भोपाल स्मार्ट सिटी डेवलपमेंट कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड

SAHYADRI INDUSTRIES LIMITED

CIN: L26956PN1994PLC078941

Registered Office: 39/D, Gultekdi, J.N.Road, Pune-411037. T: 2026444625/26/27
Fax: 20 2644 4624, 2645 8888, Email:info@silworld.in. Website: www.silworld.in

NOTICE

The members of the Company are hereby informed that, the Company on October 23, 2020 has completed the dispatch of postal ballot Notice vide email pursuant to Section 110 of the Companies Act 2013 read with Rule 20 and 22 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and the MCA General Circular No(s). 14/1/2020 dated April 8, 2020, 17/2020 dated April 13, 2020, 22/2020 dated June 15, 2020 and 33/2020 dated September 28, 2020 in relation to "circulation of passing of ordinary and special resolutions by Companies under the Companies Act, 2013 and the rules made thereunder on account of the threat posed by Covid-19 and extension of the said framework upto December 31, 2020" to members of the Company as on October 16, 2020 (cut-off date). This postal ballot e-voting facility is being conducted to seek approval of members of the Company for appointment I re-appointment of Executive and independent Directors of the Company and other matters.

The Board of Directors of the Company has appointed Mr Suvir Saraf, Practising Company Secretary as Scrutinizer for conducting the postal ballot remote e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner. Please note that there will be no dispatch of physical copies of notices or Postal Ballot Forms to the members or the company and no physical Ballot Forms will be acceptable by the company as per the above mentioned MCA circulars.

To facilitate Members who have not received the notice, to receive the notice electronically and cast their vote electronically, members are requested to send their application along with updated mail ID to support@sharexindia.com or cs@silworld.in.

The members of the Company are requested to communicate their assent or dissent only through the remote voting system on or before 23rd November 2020.

The members of the Company are also hereby informed and requested to note that:

"The Businesses as set out in aforesaid notice are to be transacted by the members through postal ballot remote e-voting system. The company is providing facility for voting by electronic means through E-Voting platform of CDSL (Central Depository Services Limited). The necessary instructions for remote e-voting have been set out in the said notice.

"The company has completed dispatch of the said Postal Ballot Notice vide mail on October 23, 2020.

"The Postal Ballot remote e voting will commence on October 25, 2020 at 9.00 a.m. and will end on November 23, 2020 at 5.00 p.m. During the voting period members of the company holding shares either the physical form or in a dematerialised form as on cut-off date i.e. October 16, 2020 may cast their vote only through remote e-voting.

"Postal ballot remote e-voting will not be allowed beyond 5.00 p.m. on November 23, 2020 and e-voting module shall be disabled by CDSL for e-voting thereafter.

"Postal Ballot Notice is available on Company's website www.silworld.in, stock exchange website www.bseindia.com and CDSL website www.cdslindia.com

"The Chairman or any Director or any other person authorised by Chairman shall declare the results of the postal ballot as per the statutory timelines. The results along with the Scrutinizer's report will also be posted on the Company's website www.silworld.in, stock exchange website www.bseindia.com and CDSL website www.cdslindia.com.

"In case you have any queries or issues regarding e-voting, you may refer the Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") and e-voting manual available at www.evotingindia.com, under help section or write an email to helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com.

For SAHYADRI INDUSTRIES LIMITED
Satyen Patel
Managing Director

Date: 23/10/2020
Place: Pune



Centenary of Pandurang Shastri Athavale (Dadaji), 19th October 2020

Covid-19 has put the growing inequalities between the rich and the poor into sharp focus. This gap was already there before, but it is clear that the crisis is casting a much heavier burden on the poor. Their cramped living spaces and townships place them at higher risk of catching the virus, and they also lack the money and resources to be able to patiently wait for the storm to pass.

Even before the pandemic, it was embarrassing that, world over, so much of national wealth is held by a small group of people. Inequality has emerged as a central issue in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) because of the growing body of evidence that inequalities in income and wealth cause economic instability, a range of health and social problems, and create roadblocks for sustainable development.

We are in desperate need of a new model and an alternative approach to addressing these age-old issues before we get to a crisis point. Neither capitalism nor communism have provided adequate solutions to date. We are at risk of these social and economic inequalities further tearing our delicate social fabric and further undermining our social cohesion. The time has come to take action.

One innovative approach comes from the ongoing legacy of the late Pandurang Shastri Athavale (Dadaji), who was awarded the Templeton Prize for 'Progress in Religion' in 1997 at Westminster Abbey due to his work on building bridges between the "haves" and the "have-nots". His Swadhyaya work, now led by his daughter Jaysree Athavale - Talwalkar (Didiji), has returned a sense of dignity and hope to a segment of the population that had previously been in despair.

From a young age, Dadaji was deeply concerned by the inequalities he observed around him, observing how people, families and entire communities were being ignored, isolated or left behind. He could see that charitable efforts to throw money at the problem were not enough to resolve the underlying issues. He would say "the have-nots need more than our food, money and things. They are desperately in need of personal warmth and a sense of belonging to the society." His core message was that each of us has intrinsic value, based on the common divinity within each of us. He warned that we need to be careful not to help others out of pity, guilt or charity, but to stand with the other as if they were our own sister or brother. Dadaji's core philosophy of 'Indwelling God' drawn from Bhagwad Gita is the most sound and appropriate basis for such relationship.

Dadaji showed that the way to truly address inequality is to inspire even the most common of people to be able to help themselves and each other. In fact, those who were in need of help themselves, feel motivated to help others in their community too. Over the past 70 years, out of a sense of gratitude to God (bhakti), Swadhyaya volunteers from all walks of life have joined Dadaji to offer their time, effort and skills in creative and collaborative projects that benefit their communities but also engender self-respect and social responsibility in their own lives.

For example, today there are shared Swadhyaya farms (known as Yogeshwar Krishis) in about ten thousand villages across India. These farms are worked on by Swadhyayees, but each individual donates only a few days a year on any one plot. Each volunteer considers these days as an opportunity to devote his / her skills, time and efficiency for God. The volunteers have no personal claim to the wealth produced on the farm, which can only belong to God and is subsequently distributed to the needy.

The creation of such "impersonal wealth" has powerful applications. It is also at the heart of the dozens of tree-planting projects (Vrukshmandirs), where hundreds of large orchards of trees have been lovingly cultivated and looked after by the nearby villages. They see their tending as an act of worship and do so by rotation as priests in these temples of trees. As with farms and orchards, so with fishing communities around the coast of India. In a radical extension of this idea, nearly a hundred of boats have so far been built and crewed in rotation by local fishermen, with the production from their collective labour again being regarded as impersonal wealth belonging to none and silently distributed to the most needy as divine benevolence (Prasad).

These and many other devotional projects and experiments undertaken within Swadhyaya have reduced poverty and increased income of entire communities across tens of thousands of villages. It is a truly revolutionary idea to empower common persons who may have very little for themselves, whether farmers, fishermen or any others, to uplift themselves and their community, by creating "impersonal wealth" for the benefit of those in need.

Dadaji's birth centenary falls on 19th October this year and is celebrated by Swadhyayees as 'human dignity day'. As we emerge from the coronavirus crisis, Dadaji's centenary year is a perfect opportunity for us all to celebrate his innovation and his forward-thinking initiatives to explore how we can create a more equal and empowered society for future generations. When every individual and community is self-sufficient, the entire world prospers.

Mitesh Sheth is graduate from the London School of Economics, a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries and Chief Executive Officer of Redington Ltd, based in the UK

Nikka