

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

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Coronavirus Destination Update

Coronavirus cases in India have risen to world's fourth largest, however, the Indian subcontinent continues firmly on the path to reopen economies.

INDIA

As the second phase of the ongoing unlock 1.0 — more restrictions is expected to be relaxed from July 1, after the present phase of unlocking comes to an end on June 30. However, given the rising number of cases, many states are reimposing lockdown, in consultation with stakeholders. India recorded 16,922 new cases of Covid-19 and 418 fatalities in the last 24 hours, highest so far. Delhi, which was the second worst hit state in terms of coronavirus caseload and fatalities, overtook Mumbai after the number of cases soared by 3,788 to touch 70,390. As part of the Delhi government's revised Covid-19 response plan, a house to house screening will be completed by June 30 in containment zones and for the rest of the city by July 6 in what is billed as a mammoth exercise. In all, 12 states now account for more than 10,000 coronavirus cases as they continued to report record daily spikes that were mainly attributed to augmented testing.

Unlock 2.0 is expected to follow with additional relaxations in phases pending further assessment of the situation. During this phase, it is likely the government will consider resumption of educational institutions, additional train services, domestic flights and establishing travel bubbles with countries such as the United States, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom.

Following a military standoff last week along a contested Himalayan border, India and China hold diplomatic talks to ease border tension.

The coronavirus case count in India now stands at 473,105 cases, with 271,696 recovered according to latest health ministry figures. 14,894 people have died due to the virus.

For the latest national updates you may visit <u>https://www.mygov.in/covid-19/</u>