

## 181 Corers and Counting: Covid – 19 Vaccine Policy in Indian

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The caselet endeavours to explain the role of the plurality of institutions that helped India unfold a Covid -19 Vaccination regime and administer over 181 crores dosages to the Indian population in less than a year.

## Background: Development and Collaboration

S. No.	Name of Vaccine	Developed By	Manufactured by	Approved on India (Date)
1	Covishield	AstraZeneca	Serum Institute of India	1 January 2021
2	Covaxin	Bharat Biotech (in collaboration with ICMR and CMC Vellore, NIV Pune)	Bharat Biotech	3 January 2021
3	Sputnik V Sputnik Light	Gamaleya National Centre of Epidemiology and Microbiology (Russia)	Reddy Labs	12 April 2021 6 Feb, 2022
4	Moderna	Moderna	Cipla	29 June, 2021 Did not accept the liability clause and hence not available
5	Johnson and Johnson	Johnson and Johnson	Biological E	7 August 2021 Did not accept the liability clause
6	Pfizer Vaccine	Pfizer	Pfizer's own manufacturing unit in India	Did not accept the liability clause
7	Novavax	Novavax Biotechnology (USA)	Serum Institute of India	28 December 2021
8	ZyCoV-D	Zydus Cadila	Shilpa Biologicals Private Limited (SBPL)	20 August 2021

## Financial Support

The Government of India allocated resources for fast-tracking the three interrelated steps: development, manufacturing and distribution mechanisms.

Development and Manufacturing

Distribution

## Regulatory Institutions

### Three stages

- Discovery phase which includes non-clinical research.
- Clinical trials and a review of data analysis.
  - The emphasis on these two stages is to ensure quality, safety and efficacy.
- Policy administering the vaccines.

# The Technical Regulators

Department of Biotechnology, Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI),  
Central Drug Laboratory – Kasauli

## Quasi Technical and Policy Regulators

National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI); National Expert Group  
on Vaccine Administration for Covid- 19 (NEGVAG), NITI Aayog COVID Team

## Administration of Vaccine:

Phase and Date	Name of the Vaccine	Key Features
Phase 1 16.01.2021 to 28.02.2021	Covishield and then Covaxin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vaccination permitted for HCWs and FLWs</li> <li>• Procurement: 100% of vaccine doses procured by GoI and provided free of cost to State/UT Governments for being administered</li> </ul>

Phase and Date	Name of the Vaccine	Key Features
Phase 2a 01.03.2021 to 31.03.2021	Covishield and Covaxin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Besides HCWs and FLWs, vaccination was permitted for persons above the age of 60 years and those above 45 years with defined comorbidities.</li> <li>• Procurement: same as Phase 1</li> </ul>

# Administration of Vaccine:

Phase and Date	Name of the Vaccine	Key Features
Phase 2b 01.04.2021 to 30.04.2021	Covishield and Covaxin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Besides HCWs and FLWs, vaccination was permitted for all persons above the age of 45 years.</li> <li>Procurement: same as Phase 1</li> </ul>

Phase and Date	Name of the Vaccine	Key Features
Phase 3 (Liberalized Pricing and Accelerated National COVID Vaccination Strategy) 01.05.2021 to 20.06.2021	Covishield, Covaxin and Sputnik	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vaccination permitted for persons aged 18-44 years in addition to priority groups (HCWs, FLWs, persons above the age of 45 years)</li> <li>Procurement:</li> <li>50% vaccine doses to be procured by GoI for being administered by States/UTs to priority groups.</li> <li>50% vaccine doses to be procured by State Govts (25 %) and Private Hospitals (25 %) to be administered to persons between 18 to 44 years of age</li> </ul>



## Technological Enabler for Administering Vaccines

- **Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN)**

- eVIN has been used by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India since 2015 to strengthen the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) under the National Health Mission (NHM). It is an indigenously developed technology system that aims to provide information on vaccine stocks, flows, and storage temperatures of vaccines across all cold chain points in the country.

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Intelligence Network) (CoWIN)**

- To record vaccination in a verifiable manner and ensured transparency and accountability of the system.
- Tracking of the required gap between the first and the second dosages of the vaccine.
- Self-registration and tracking.

## Towards Conclusion: How did India Achieve the Success in First Adult Vaccination Programme

- Rooted belief in Institutional Plurality
- Past experience of administering the vaccine
- Technology as a key enabler
- Public Private Partnership
- Quick and Adaptive Regulatory Process

Thank you!