

## **Testwale Current Affairs PDF**

Current Affairs search results for: "Government has extended the term of DGCI V G Somani again by three months"

### **1. Government approves Bharat Biotech's Nasal covid vaccine ( Dec. 23, 2022 )**

India on 23 December 2022 has allowed the use of Bharat Biotech's nasal COVID-19 vaccine as a booster dose.

The government of India on 23 December 2022 has allowed the use of Bharat Biotech's nasal COVID-19 vaccine as a booster dose. The vaccine will be offered to people of 18 years and above.

The vaccine will be available initially at the private hospitals and can be booked on the CoWIN app from 23 December 2022.

The nasal vaccine **BBV154** had received approval of the [Drugs Controller General of India](#) in November for restricted use in an emergency situation for those above 18 as a heterologous booster dose.

This vaccine has been specifically formulated to allow intranasal delivery through nasal drops. The nasal delivery system has been designed and developed to be cost-effective in low and middle-income countries.

It was developed in partnership with **Washington University, St. Louis** of the United States of America.

The rise of [mutant variants](#) in China and other countries may cause a fresh surge of infections in India, which is a cause of concern for the government.

**Hyderabad based** Bharat Biotech company has also developed injectable **Covaxin vaccine** with Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and National Institute of Virology, Pune.

### **Heterologous vaccine**

A heterologous vaccine is a type of booster vaccine which is given to a person who has already taken a different vaccine. A heterologous vaccine is also called a mix and match vaccine because a person is taking two types of vaccine for the same disease.

The **novel coronavirus** was first detected in **Wuhan** China in December 2019 and was later declared a Public health emergency of International concern by the World Health Organisation on 30 January 2020 and a Pandemic on 11 March 2020. The first case of the virus in India was confirmed in **Kerala** on 30 January 2020.

The Covid vaccination in India was started on **16 January 2021**.

### **2. DCGI allows the export of SII made Ebola vaccine for export to Uganda ( Dec. 8, 2022 )**

DCGI allows the export of SII made Ebola vaccine for export to Uganda

The [Drugs Controller General of India \(DCGI\)](#) on 8 December 2022 approved the export of India's first Ebola vaccine manufactured by **Serum Institute of India (SII)** to **Uganda**.

The vaccine has been developed by SII in collaboration with **Oxford University**, United Kingdom. This vaccine will be used for solidarity clinical trials in Uganda.

The [World Health Organisation \(WHO\)](#) has sought collaboration with manufacturers of Ebola vaccines for the prevention of the disease and has selected ChAdOx1 biEBOV as a potential vaccine for participation in a solidarity clinical trial in Uganda.

Oxford University signed an agreement with Serum Institute of India to manufacture ChAdOx1 biEBOV.

**Serum Institute of India** situated in Pune is the largest vaccine manufacturer in the world. SII makes vaccines for Covid-19, diphtheria, BCG, measles, rubella and others.

CEO of SII: **Adar Poonawala**

### **Ebola Virus**

It was first reported in 1972 in South Sudan and in a village near **Ebola River in Democratic Republic of Congo**. Hence it is called the Ebola virus.

The virus can spread through direct contact with an infected animal (bat or nonhuman primate) or a sick or dead person infected with Ebola virus.

### **3. Government has extended the term of DCGI V G Somani again by three months ( Nov. 16, 2022 )**

The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has again extended the term of the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) **Dr V G Somani** by another three months. The extension will come into effect from 15 November 2022.

He was earlier given an extension in August this year for three months. His extended term was to expire on 15 November 2022.

**Dr Venugopal Girdharilal Somani** played a key role in the approval of covid-19 vaccine, approval of lifesaving drugs and ensuring its quality in combating the covid-19 pandemic.

### **About DCGI (Drugs Controller General of India)**

The Drugs Controller General of India is the head of the **Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation** under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, CDSCO is responsible for approval of Drugs, Conduct of Clinical Trials, laying down the standards for Drugs, control over the quality of imported Drugs in the country

Drugs Controller General of India: **Venugopal Girdharilal Somani**

Headquarters: **New Delhi**