

COVID-19 vaccine and immunity: A doctor explains the connection



Everyone wants to strengthen their immune system so that they can ward off diseases, or fight them, effectively. In the ongoing pandemic, the one question that many people have asked is about the efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccine, and if one actually needs it. Dr Sandeep Patil, chief intensivist at Fortis Hospital Kalyan, explains the process of vaccine-induced immunity and says that vaccination has become a "critical addition" to our defenses against COVID-19.

"This much is certain. But our ability to achieve vaccination-induced herd immunity is still unknown. That shouldn't stop us from trying. It also shouldn't stop us from practicing and promoting safety guidelines that can actually curb the spread of the disease," he tells indianexpress.com. "If COVID-19 is a raging forest fire, then vaccines are the firefighters trying to quell it. We have to continue with the preventive measures — social distancing, mask wearing, hand hygiene, and rapid testing." Dr Patil further states that according to the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates, 65 to 70 per cent of a given population must be vaccinated to halt the spread of disease. "Once that threshold is crossed, the COVID-19 virus will have too few human hosts to choose from, driving down transmission rates dramatically. The process of getting there is simple theory, but laborious and time-consuming in practice."

Vaccine safety and immunity
The doctor points out that certain concerns about vaccine safety relate to how vaccines interact with the immune system, or even how the immune system functions in different situations. "For example, natural infection versus immunisation. While it is fair to consider these concerns, it is important to understand them in the context of how the immune system works. It is true that natural infection causes better immunity than vaccines. The difference, however, between vaccination and natural infection is the price paid for immunity. Are we willing to wait that long for more people to get infected or more lives to be lost? Or do we need to find for proactive solutions? Vaccines, like natural infections, induce long-term immunity. And moreover, the vaccine candidates that have received approval from regulatory authorities are efficacious and safe. Speak with your doctor if you have more doubts," Dr Patil concludes.

Woo second-generation Indian-Americans

Undeterred by weather or wallet, they do their bit — hold up placards, shout slogans, lobby lawmakers, and involuntarily, prefix "our" to references to Indian prime ministers. They still do their bit, but not as often as they did once. Their children? Even less. "The diaspora that the Indian government has come to know is not static," says a new report based on a 2020 survey of Indian-Americans. Indian-descent Americans born and raised in the United States (US) "exhibit different sensibilities both with respect to politics in India as well as politics closer to home." They are also "less engaged with India and more US-focused than their parents' generation." This aspect of the report — "How Indian Americans view India? Results from the 2020 Indian American Attitudes Survey" — authored by Devesh Kapur, Mijan Valishnav and Sumitra Badrinathan — merits more attention. Second-generation Indian-Americans

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A resilient future for Uttarakhand

Days after a glacier burst in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand caused flash floods, the scientific community is still struggling to understand what triggered the disaster. At the time of writing this article, the death toll was 34 with more than 170 people missing. The floods have also caused heavy damage to public and private infrastructure, including the NTPC's Tapovan-Vishnugad hydropower project and the Rishiganga mini hydro project. The incident was reminiscent of the 2013 disaster in Uttarakhand which killed thousands.

Why is Uttarakhand vulnerable?

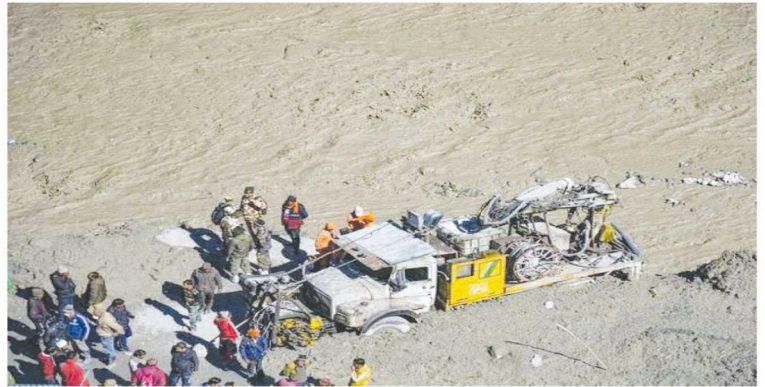
Uttarakhand is located in the midst of young and unstable mountains, and is subject to intense rainfall. But these natural characteristics can't be solely responsible for devastations the State has witnessed in the past decade. For years geologists, glaciologists and climate experts have voiced their fears about an impending disaster due to climate change, rapid and indiscriminate construction activities, and the subsequent ecological destruction in the region.

The agonising cost of ham-handed development

The occurrence of the current glacier burst was loosely attributed to erosion, a build-up of water pressure, an avalanche of snow or rocks, landslides or an earthquake under the ice. According to the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, a rock mass, weakened from years of freezing and thawing of snow, may have led to the creation of a weak zone and fractures leading to a collapse that resulted in flash floods. What has intrigued experts and the local community is that this avalanche occurred unexpectedly, out of the regular flood season. Experts also identified large-scale human settlements and expansion of agricultural activities leading to massive deforestation, as a possible trigger. Studies have shown that widespread settlements, farming, cattle grazing and other anthropogenic activities could destroy the natural barriers that control avalanches and floods, thereby enhancing the possibilities of a glacial lake outburst flood. The Hindu Kush Himalaya Assessment Report (2019) had pointed out that one-third of the Hindu Kush Himalaya's glaciers would melt by 2100 and potentially destabilise the river regime in Asia, even if all the countries in the region fulfilled their commitments under the Paris Agreement. It also warned that any ecologically destructive activities would lead to more intensified disasters like landslides.

Experts and activists have increasingly asked for scrutiny into the construction of hydroelectric power projects in Uttarakhand. There have also been allegations about the use of explosives in the construction of dams and other infrastructure. In 2014, an expert committee led by Dr Ravi Chopra, instituted to assess the role of dams in

The need of the hour is to invest in long-term crisis response mechanisms and resilience solutions



exacerbating floods, provided hard evidence on how haphazard construction of dams was causing irreversible damage to the region.

A rescue operation near Rainsi village was halted due to surge in water levels of the Rishiganga on Thursday. Scientist warns of water build-up near Uttarakhand disaster zone

Some immediate steps

The need of the hour is to invest in long-term crisis response mechanisms and resilience solutions. A few immediate steps include: (i) investing in resilience planning,

especially in flood prevention and rapid response; (ii) climate proofing the infrastructure such as by applying road stabilisation technologies for fragile road networks and strengthening existing structures like bridges, culverts and tunnels; (iii) strengthening embankments with adequate scientific know-how; (iv) reassessing development of hydropower and other public infrastructure; (v) investing in a robust monitoring and early warning system; (vi) establishing implementable policies and regulatory guidelines to restrict detrimental human activities, including responsible eco-

and religious tourism policies; and (vii) investing in training and capacity building to educate and empower local communities to prevent and manage risks effectively.

Rescue operations under way at Tapovan Tunnel. Two power projects — NTPC's Tapovan-Vishnugad hydel project and the Rishi Ganga Hydel Project — were extensively damaged. The time for wake-up calls is long behind us. India needs to urgently rise up to the challenge by applying innovative and inclusive solutions that support nature and marginalised communities, to restore and rebuild a resilient future for Uttarakhand.

Effective regulation is key to banking reforms

It is the season for banking reforms. Finance minister (FM) Nirmala Sitharaman's announcements on the policy for privatisation in banking, insurance and financial services indicate that there will be bare minimum presence of public sector enterprises. The privatisation of a general insurance company and two State-owned banks are to be taken up in the year 2021-22. The FM has also proposed to set up an asset reconstruction and management company. While thin on details, the message appears to be strong on commitment. Indeed, the desire to change matters earlier thought to be non-negotiable seems to extend beyond the finance ministry. An internal working group of

the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently recommended that corporate/industrial houses should be allowed to promote commercial banks, subject to "necessary amendments" to the banking legislation to address the risks related to the proposal. The RBI governor has clarified that this was the view of the internal working group and not RBI's official view.

Few will disagree that the financial sector is in dire need of reform. While there should be a robust debate on the merits of these proposals, it is equally important to consider how these will be implemented in the context of the existing regulatory framework. Regulatory governance involves elements of standard-setting,

supervision and monitoring, and enforcement. Legislating standards requires a delicate balance between issuing rules to help industry understand the regulatory expectation clearly, and providing discretion to the regulator to reel in rogue players who abuse the rules. For instance, the simple principle that banks should not unfairly lend to people related to its owners, when translated into legal rules, will require a definition of the term "related". The owners/promoters of the bank would, of course, be covered and, if they are individuals, their immediate relatives. But what about lending to a cousin? Similarly, if the promoter is a company, a subsidiary and holding company would be covered.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

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STATEMENT OF STANDALONE UN-AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED ON 31ST DECEMBER, 2020 (RS. IN LAKHS)

| Particulars | Quarter ended | 9 Months Ended | Quarter Ended on |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| | 31.12.2020 | on 31.12.2020 | 31.12.2019 |
| | Un-audited | Un-audited | Un-audited |
| Total income from operation (Net) | --- | --- | --- |
| Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and / or Extraordinary Items) | -0.12 | -1.18 | -0.1 |
| Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before Tax (after exceptional and / or Extraordinary Items) | -0.12 | -1.18 | -0.1 |
| Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after Tax (after exceptional and / or Extraordinary Items) | -0.12 | -1.18 | -0.1 |
| Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)) | --- | --- | --- |
| Equity Share Capital | 1632.75 | 1632.75 | 1632.75 |
| Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) | 0.00 | -0.01 | 0.00 |
| Basic: | 0.00 | -0.01 | 0.00 |
| Diluted: | 0.00 | -0.01 | 0.00 |

Note: - The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the stock exchanges under Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the stock exchange website at www.bseindia.com and on company's website www.ihfci.com.

For INTERNATIONAL HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LTD.

Place: Ahmedabad Date: 12/02/2021 SANDIP B. PADSALA MANAGING DIRECTOR (DIN: 01870595)

B. NANJI ENTERPRISES LIMITED

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STATEMENT OF STANDALONE UN-AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED ON 31ST DECEMBER, 2020 (RS. IN LAKHS)

| Particulars | Quarter ended | 9 Months Ended | Quarter Ended on |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| | 31.12.2020 | on 31.12.2020 | 31.12.2019 |
| | Un-audited | Un-audited | Un-audited |
| Total income from operation (Net) | 27.82 | 126.26 | 397.79 |
| Net Profit/(Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and / or Extraordinary Items) | -6.89 | 4.64 | 80.37 |
| Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before Tax (after exceptional and / or Extraordinary Items) | -6.89 | 4.64 | 80.37 |
| Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after Tax (after exceptional and / or Extraordinary Items) | -6.89 | 4.64 | 80.37 |
| Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)) | --- | --- | --- |
| Equity Share Capital | 551.45 | 551.45 | 551.45 |
| Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) | -0.12 | 0.08 | 1.46 |
| Basic: | -0.12 | 0.08 | 1.46 |
| Diluted: | -0.12 | 0.08 | 1.46 |

Note: - The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the stock exchanges under Regulation 33 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the stock exchange website at www.bseindia.com and on company's website www.bnani.com.

For B. NANJI ENTERPRISES LIMITED

Place: Ahmedabad Date: 12/02/2021 SANDIP B. PADSALA WHOLE TIME DIRECTOR (DIN: 01870595)

GLOBE TEXTILES (INDIA) LIMITED

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Extract of Un-Audited standalone Financial Results for the Quarter ended 31st December, 2020 (Rs. In Lakhs) Except EPS and Face Value of Share)

| Particulars | Quarter Ended | | Nine Month Ended |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|------------------|
| | 31-12-2020 | 31-12-2019 | 31-12-2020 |
| | (Unaudited) | (Unaudited) | (Unaudited) |
| Total income from operations (net) | 9832.31 | 7524.80 | 18279.90 |
| Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items) | 176.35 | (84.48) | (53.25) |
| Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items) | 176.35 | (84.48) | (53.25) |
| Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items) | 176.35 | (84.48) | (53.25) |
| Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)] | 175.70 | (85.53) | (55.19) |
| Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the Balance Sheet of previous year) | 1007.61 | 1007.61 | 1007.61 |
| Earnings Per Share (of Rs.10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations) | 1.74 | (0.85) | (0.55) |
| Basic: | 1.74 | (0.85) | (0.55) |
| Diluted: | 1.74 | (0.85) | (0.55) |

Note: 1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the website of the Company (www.globetextiles.net) and on the website of www.bseindia.com.
2. The impact on net profit / loss, total comprehensive income or any other relevant financial item(s) due to change(s) in accounting policies shall be disclosed by means of a footnote.
3. Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items adjusted in the Statement of Profit and Loss in accordance with Ind-AS Rules / AS Rules, whichever is applicable.

For, GLOBE TEXTILES (INDIA) LIMITED

Sd-
Bhavik Suryakant Parikh
(Managing Director)
(DIN: 00038223)

Date: 13/02/2021
Place: Ahmedabad

