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FROM SECRETARY GENERAL'S DESK

## **COVID VACCINATION : IMA FOR PEOPLE**

Indian Medical Association, has enormous strenghth across the country. The pandemic has seen the might of IMA & modern medicine. While the world was under mass quarantine, IMA doctors were busy in delivering their duties, against all odds. Doctors delivered their professional expertise in fearless manner. Pandemic marked the importance of modern medicine & doctors beyond doubt. IMA doctors delivered their services in community clinics, covid specific facilities, covid ICUs, HDUs. Doctors working in non-covid facilities too were exposed to covid. IMA lost its 732 expert doctors while fighting with covid. Finally our Indian scientists have come out with the vaccine against covid-19. And this is the proud moment for all of us. IMA has expressed its solidarity with the government during the covid vaccination drive.

Unfortunately the social media & the country stands flooded with many myths & untrue stories about covid vaccine, its safety, efficacy etc. More than covid, these rumours are proving harmful. People are getting misled by these myths. Obviously, as the modern medicine professional body, it is the natural responsibility on our shoulders to fight with the menace of the misinformation against covid vaccine.

The world & our country have waited long for this vaccine. It is the master work by our scientists to prepare this vaccine in such a short time for our own people. Government of India will start the vaccination against covid from January 16, 2021. We at IMA have always promoted vaccines. IMA shall stand with the government during this covid vaccination drive. IMA has launched a massive public awareness drive.

Vaccines are for building the immunity in human body. They develop immunity & decrease the chances of contracting the illness. These basic facts should be brought in public awareness. IMA, as modern medicine professional body, has always supported vaccination. This scientific & evidence based preventive medicine should be tought to the people of our country. At every cost IMA will make the covid vaccination drive successful.

IMA through its all professionals shall provide the rightous & scientific information to people across the country. We appeal to all IMA members to design the mechanisms to promote the vaccine. We also suggest to reach out to maximum public forums, media, social media etc to increase the awareness about the vaccine.

IMA reiterates its stand to be in support of covid vaccination drive. All members should get vaccinated & lead this mission by example.

Jai Hind.

Long Live IMA.