

World sends oxygen aid for India's COVID crisis

30th April, 2021



Many countries around the world are sending oxygen to India. This is because of India's current COVID-19 crisis. India is the world's second most populous country, with over 1.3 billion people. It is currently struggling to cope with its latest surge in the coronavirus pandemic. There are over

300,000 new cases every day - the largest number of daily cases ever experienced by any country. India's health system can no longer cope. There are not enough beds, and hospitals are turning away people with the virus. They have also run out of oxygen. Singapore and the UK have sent much-needed oxygen cylinders to India. India's government has also arranged for Amazon to deliver 100 ventilators.

A Singapore Foreign Affairs spokesperson, Dr Maliki Osman, explained how urgent it was to help India. He said: "We have all witnessed in the past year how this pandemic is a trans-boundary threat. It gives no regard for country, nationality, or race. This is exactly why we must work collectively to support each other." The WHO said the situation in India was "beyond heartbreaking". It said: "The WHO is doing everything we can, providing critical equipment and supplies, including thousands of oxygen concentrators, mobile field hospitals and laboratory supplies." It added: "The growth that we have seen in case numbers is really, truly astonishing."

Sources: channelnewsasia.com / siasat.com / [yahoo.com](https://www.flickr.com/photos/jonathanj/)

Writing

The whole world needs to go on a serious month-long lockdown. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

countries / oxygen / billion / struggling / health system / hospitals / virus / India / urgent / the past year / pandemic / nationality / heartbreaking / equipment / growth

True / False

- a) Every country is sending oxygen to India. T / F
- b) More than 1.3 billion people live in India. T / F
- c) India has the second largest number of daily cases of any country in the world. T / F
- d) The article says hospitals are turning people away despite having enough beds. T / F
- e) A government spokesperson said the virus was a cross-border threat. T / F
- f) The spokesperson said we must all act together. T / F
- g) The WHO said it was doing all it could. T / F
- h) The WHO said the rise in case numbers wasn't true. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 1. world | a. together |
| 2. current | b. increase |
| 3. surge | c. organized |
| 4. cope | d. danger |
| 5. arranged | e. manage |
| 6. witnessed | f. honestly |
| 7. threat | g. present |
| 8. collectively | h. important |
| 9. critical | i. seen |
| 10. truly | j. globe |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) How has coronavirus changed the world?
- c) How has coronavirus changed your life?
- d) How can we support each other better?
- e) What is the best thing Indians can do in the next few weeks?
- f) What can you do to help the people of India?
- g) What do you think the headlines will be in India in two weeks?
- h) What questions would you like to ask a COVID doctor?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. India is the world's second most | a. cases every day |
| 2. It is currently struggling to cope | b. "beyond heartbreaking" |
| 3. There are over 300,000 new | c. away people with the virus |
| 4. India's health system can no | d. and supplies |
| 5. hospitals are turning | e. populous country |
| 6. this pandemic is a trans- | f. case numbers |
| 7. we must work collectively | g. with its latest surge |
| 8. the situation in India was | h. boundary threat |
| 9. providing critical equipment | i. longer cope |
| 10. The growth that we have seen in | j. to support each other |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you know of the crisis in India?
- How can the world help India?
- How is your country dealing with the COVID crisis?
- What happens when a health system can no longer cope?
- What advice do you have for India's leaders?
- What is the best way to deal with a surge in coronavirus cases?
- How useful are lockdowns during a pandemic?
- When do you think the pandemic will be over?

Spelling

- India's current COVID-19 isicrs
- India is the world's second most puoosplu country
- It is currently glutgsring to cope
- its latest sgure in the coronavirus pandemic
- much-needed oxygen cedlrsiyn
- deliver 100 oanrietlvts
- A Singapore Foreign Affairs peksporeossn
- explained how grnute it was to help India
- no regard for country, aitontaniyl, or race
- we must work toleiclclyev
- the situation in India was beyond gbrnrahkitaee
- field hospitals and laboratory lssppuie

Answers – Synonym Match

1. j	2. g	3. b	4. e	5. c
6. i	7. d	8. a	9. h	10. f

Role Play

Role A – Syringes

You think syringes are the most important things in a pandemic. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): masks, radios or hand sanitizer.

Role B – Masks

You think masks are the most important things in a pandemic. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): syringes, radios or hand sanitizer.

Role C – Radios

You think radios are the most important things in a pandemic. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): masks, syringes or hand sanitizer.

Role D – Hand Sanitizer

You think hand sanitizer is the most important thing in a pandemic. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): masks, radios or syringes.

Speaking – Supplies

Rank these with your partner. Put the most important equipment needed in a pandemic at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| • Hand sanitizer | • Syringes |
| • Vaccines | • Alcohol |
| • Oxygen | • Masks |
| • Radios | • Soap |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	F	e	T	f	T	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.