

With the widening of digital divide, majority of rural population is excluded from the vaccination drive in the country. Do you agree with this view? comment.

Rationing of vaccines through mandatory registration COWIN portal with mandatory registration for the age group of 18-44 has several lacunae's.

1) Exclusion of vulnerable sections

The rural & vulnerable sections that do not have the knowledge of how to use digital technology ~~could not~~ register find it difficult to register.

2) Limited reach

The provisioning of vaccines is happening only at taluk and district levels.

With lockdowns being imposed and no public transportation people from remote areas could not reach these sites for vaccination.

3) Claimed by the rich & Digitally educated
The people from ~~metro cities~~ ~~are~~ metro cities
are registering for vaccines at surrounding
districts & taluks.

4) Irregular notification

The availability of vaccines is not notified at
regular times which makes it 'faster finger'
process to book vaccines

5) The construction workers & daily wagers
that are allowed to work during lockdown
face greater danger of being exposed to
virus & are at most disadvantage to
register for vaccines

6) The grocery shop owners who can become
a mass spreading individuals if they
are contacted with virus are also at
disadvantage to get vaccines

Way forward

Government should enable Asha workers
and Nurse midwives to access vaccines
so that they can ensure people at most
vulnerable sections are vaccinated at
priority