Covid-19 in India

１　India has been hit hard by a second COVID-19 wave since this February. As of May 12th, India has 23,340,938 Coronavirus cases and 254,225 deaths. (19,382,642 have recovered.) With an overall tally at 13.06 million, India’s overall caseload was the third-highest globally behind the US and Brazil.

２　①Why is the second wave spreading much faster across the country compared to the first wave? First, many hospitals are reporting a chronic shortage of beds and oxygen. [Disturbing reports of people dying without getting timely treatment](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-56799303) are coming from all over India. Several states are creating new facilities, but experts say it's going to be hard to 【　A　】the pace of the rising number of infections.

３　Secondly, election rallies, as well as crowded festivals, religious gatherings and the reopening of most public places, have contributed to the resurgence of the virus. The lack of 【　B　】measures such as mask-wearing or social distancing has increased the spread.

４　②Crematoriums have been running day and night in cities, and people have to wait for hours ③to get the deceased cremated or buried. On May 11th, the bodies of at least 40 people have washed up on the banks of the Ganges river in northern India. Images on social media of the bodies floating in the river prompted outrage and speculation that they died from COVID-19. According to some local residents, some villagers have no options but to put the corpses of their loved ones directly into the river due to a shortage of wood for cremations and the rising costs to hold funerals.

tally集計 caseload取り扱い件数　( )慢性的な　( )不足　( 　)酸素

disturbing穏やかならざる　rally集会　as well as~：~と同様に　contribute to~：~の一因となる

resurgence再開・復興　　crematorium火葬場・遺体焼却炉　the deceased故人・死者　cremate火葬する

bury埋葬する＊発音注意　　bank土手・騎士　prompt促す　outrage怒り　speculation推測

have no option but to~：~する以外に選択肢がない　corpse死体【kˈɔːps】　loved ones愛する人達

( 　 　)火葬　　( )葬式　★覚えた語(　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　)

※corpse（死体）と綴りの似ている単語にcorps（軍団）があります。＊発音はコア【kɔ'ːr】(psを発音しない)

Q1　What is a big problem in India right now?

Q2 What is the population of India?

Q3 Approximately what percentage of COVID-19 patients have recovered in India?

Q4 What are the five countries that have the highest number of covid deaths? (You can google it.)

Q5 下線①に対し、記事は理由を２つ提示しています。それぞれの理由を50字前後の日本語でまとめましょう。

Q6　【A】【B】に当てはまる語を選びましょう。

　　【A】1) come up with 2) keep up with 3) make up with 4) put up with

　　【B】1) precautious 2) preliminary 3) preventive 4) previous

Q7　What are ②crematoriums? Please explain in English.

Q8 下線③を、使役動詞getを使わずに書きなおしましょう。

　　to get the deceased cremated or buried = to ( ) the deceased

Q9　On May 11th, what shocked people? How did it happen?

The India Covid variant

１　The Indian ①variant, known as B.1.617\*, is [wreaking havoc](https://www.aljazeera.com/program/inside-story/2021/4/20/can-india-control-record-breaking-covid-19-infections) in India. It was first detected in India last October, and in just a few weeks, it has become the dominant strain across India and has spread to over 40 nations, including the UK, Fiji and Singapore. 　　＊“B one six one seven”と発音します

２　Viruses mutate all the time. "India's high population and density is a perfect ②incubator for this virus to experiment with mutations," says Ravi Gupta, a professor of clinical microbiology at the University of Cambridge.

３　Scientists all over the world are now investigating the variant. Evidence is growing that it might be more contagious, harder to vaccinate against, and able to evade the immune system.

４　Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s popularity has fallen during India’s Covid crisis. Critics say he【　３　】 the spread of the virus. Pressure is mounting on him to announce a nationwide lockdown similar to the one imposed during the first wave last year. He will not be travelling to UK to attend the G7 summit this June.

variantまたはvariant strain変異株　＊vary：【動】異なる　various【形】様々の　strain系統・種族

wreak havoc大惨事をもたらす detect検出する　dominant支配的な・優勢の　( )突然変異する

density人口密度　 incubator孵化器・培養環境　( )実験する　( )突然変異

clinical臨床的な　microbiology細菌学　　( )調査する　 contagious伝染しやすい

evade避ける・逃れる　　immunity免疫　　existing既存の　mount on~：~にのしかかる　impose課す

Q1 What is ①variant? Please explain in English.

Q2　How long has B.1.617 been prevailing in the world?

Q3 Has B.1.617 been detected in Japan?

Q4　この記事において、下線②とほぼ同じ意味を表す語を選びましょう。

1. accelerator 2) apparatus 3) brooder 4) thermoregulator

Q5 What is a difference between B.1.617 and existing viruses?

Q6 Why is Prime Minister Modi’s popularity falling?

Q7 空欄【３】に入る最も適切な表現を選びましょう。

1. could prevent 2) could have prevented 3) would prevent 4) would have prevented

Q8 What do Indian people want Prime Minister Modi to do?

Q9 There are several reasons why the second wave is spreading fast in India. What do you think is the biggest reason?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Daily COVID19 cases in India　（感染者数の推移など、グラフデータあり）<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Coronavirus/India-s-daily-COVID-19-deaths-near-record-calls-for-nationwide-lockdown-mount> |
|  | Covid crisis grips crowded Kolkata - BBC News 【３分動画】カルカッタ市の町や病院の様子<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tg5_i54Z7X0> |

★次の文を３回ずつ読み、暗唱しましょう。

1. Many hospitals in India are reporting a chronic shortage of beds and oxygen.
2. Election rallies, as well as crowded festivals, religious gatherings and the reopening of most public places, have contributed to the resurgence of the virus.
3. Images on social media of the bodies floating in the river prompted outrage and speculation that they died from COVID-19.
4. Evidence is growing that it might be more contagious, harder to vaccinate against, and able to evade the immune system.

（和訳）

1. インドの多くの病院が、慢性的なベッドと酸素の不足を報告している。
2. 混雑した祭り、宗教の集まり、ほとんどの公共の場所の再オープンに加え、選挙の集会などが

ウィルスの再発の一因となっている。

　　　★A as well as B：BだけでなくAも、BはもちろんAも

　　　★contribute to ～：～に貢献する・～の原因となる

1. ソーシャルメディア上にあふれる川に浮いている死体の画像が、人々の怒りを誘発し、その人々はコロナウィルスで亡くなったのではないか？という憶測を生んでいる。
2. それ（インドの変異株）はより伝染しやすく、ワクチンが効きにくく、免疫を逃避するのでは、という

証拠が浮かびつつある。

★参考にしたニュース記事

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Coronavirus/India-s-daily-COVID-19-deaths-near-record-calls-for-nationwide-lockdown-mount>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-56811315#:~:text=On%2010%20February%2C%20at%20the,average%20was%20around%2022%2C000%20cases>.

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