

1796

Napoléon Bonaparte is appointed Commander-in-Chief of the French Army in Italy

1807

US Congress bans the slave trade within the US, effective January 1, 1808

1946

Ho Chi Minh elected President of North Vietnam



2002

US invasion of Afghanistan: US conventional forces first deployed as part of Operation Anaconda

Ukraine throws away unused vaccines



Ukrainian servicemen carry a box with the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine

party, told a televised meeting. "This is very bad, but there is no other option... if a person does not come, it (vaccine bottle) can be kept open for 2-3 hours, after which it must be disposed of," the head of parliament's health committee Mykhailo Radutskyi said. A total of 3,141 shots were ad-

ministered of Feb. 28, including just 90 shots in the past 24 hours, health ministry data showed.

Health Minister Maksym Stepanov said the government was working to ensure vaccines do not get thrown away, adding this also happened in other countries.

UK's Prince Philip, 99, moves hospital for heart tests

Reuters | London

Britain's Prince Philip, the 99-year-old husband of Queen Elizabeth, was transferred to a different hospital in central London on Monday to have tests for a pre-existing heart condition as well as receive treatment for an infection.

Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, was admitted to London's private King Edward VII hospital two weeks ago for treatment for an unspecified infection that is not related to COVID-19.

On Monday, Buckingham Palace said he was moved to St Bartholomew's Hospital, which is a centre of excellence for cardiac care, for further treatment and observation.

"The Duke remains comfortable and is responding to treatment but is expected to remain



in hospital until at least the end of the week," the palace said in a statement.

Photographers and TV crews at the King Edward hospital had earlier seen a patient being moved into an ambulance, shielded from watching media outside by staff with umbrellas and police, although there was

no confirmation this was the prince.

The 94-year-old monarch has remained at her Windsor Castle home to the west of London, where the couple have been staying during the coronavirus lockdown, and last week continued to carry out her official duties, albeit by video.



India boosts corona immunisation drive

Reuters | India, Bhubaneswar

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was inoculated with the first dose of a home-grown coronavirus vaccine yesterday, kicking off an expansion of the country's immunisation campaign as infections rise in some big states.

People above 60, and those who are 45 or more and suffering from certain medical conditions, are now eligible for the vaccinations. India has so far vaccinated 12 million health and front-line workers since starting its immunisation programme in mid-January. It wants to cover 300 million of its 1.35 billion people by August.

"I appeal to all those who are eligible to take the vaccine," 70-year-old Modi said on Twitter, posting a picture of him getting the shot at a government hospital in New Delhi. "Together, let us make India COVID-19 free!"

The government said last week it would let people choose their vaccination centres, effectively letting beneficiaries pick either the home-grown COVAXIN shot or the AstraZeneca vaccine.

Bharat Biotech has said efficacy data from a late-stage trial on nearly 26,000 volunteers

who took COVAXIN will be out soon. The company, along with India's drug regulator, says COVAXIN is safe and effective, based on early and intermediate studies.

"Inspired and humbled by Hon'ble PM's remarkable commitment to build an Aatmanirbhar Bharat," Bharat Biotech said in reply to Modi's tweet, referring to his self-reliance pitch to back local products.

"Yes, we all shall fight COVID-19 together and emerge victorious."

External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar tweeted: "Felt secure, will travel safely," as he received his first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine. He was administered Covaxin, developed by Bharat Biotech.

Union home minister Amit Shah received his first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine from the doctors at the Medanta Hospital, news agency ANI reported.

Vice President Venkaiah Naidu was vaccinated at the Government Medical College in Chennai. He also confirmed that he would receive the next dose of the vaccine in 28 days. "Appeal to all citizens eligible for this phase of vaccination, join the campaign against the corona virus and get vaccinated," the Vice President tweeted.

'Please get in touch': UK searches for every spreader of Brazil variant

But a sixth individual in England, one of more than a million people tested on Feb. 12-13, had yet to be identified because their test card was not filled in properly.

"If you've had a test on the 12th or 13th of February, (and) haven't had your results back, please get in touch," vaccination minister Nadhim Zahawi told Times Radio. "We are working with the postal system to try and locate them."

The P.1 variant includes mutations similar to those found in a variant first detected in South Africa known as B.1.351, which

has raised similar concerns.

Adam Finn, a member of the UK Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation, told the BBC: "The evidence we have suggests that certainly the South African variant and potentially this Brazilian variant, which is somewhat similar - the vaccines we have at the moment are less effective at reducing at least mild disease and possibly transmission."

"We are optimistic that the vaccines will continue to prevent severe disease, but the evidence for that is still fairly limited."

One of the cases in the house-

hold in South Gloucestershire had flown from Sao Paulo in Brazil via Zurich to London, arriving on Feb. 10. Public health officials said they were following up with all passengers.

All three of the Scottish cases were identified as people who had flown from Brazil to Aberdeen via Paris and London who self-isolated for the required period of 10 days. By Sunday, over 20 million people in Britain had been given a first dose of COVID-19 vaccine - just over 30% of the population, while around 800,000 had had a second dose.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



The more people that get vaccinated, the faster we will beat this pandemic. That's why one of my first goals is to administer 100 million COVID-19 vaccine shots in our first 100 days. I'm proud to say we're over halfway to our goal and weeks ahead of schedule.

@JoeBiden

02



Took my first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at AIIMS. Remarkable how our doctors and scientists have worked in quick time to strengthen the global fight against COVID-19. I appeal to all those who are eligible to take the vaccine. Together, let us make India COVID-19 free!

@narendramodi

03



Stigma and discrimination risk the health, dignity and security of people vulnerable to HIV/AIDS. To achieve a #ZeroDiscrimination world, we must ensure equal access to services & the meaningful participation in society for all.

@antonioGuterres

04



I salute the example set by President @NakufoAddo in receiving the first #COVID19 vaccination through the #COVAX Facility. Your leadership is key to promoting confidence in this life-saving tool in Ghana & across Africa.

@DrTedros

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