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1.67cr people to get Covid-19 vaccine on priority basis: **PM**

A Monitor Desk Report



Dhaka: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on January 27 informed the parliament that about 1.67 crore people, from around 20 different sectors of the country, will receive the Covid-19 vaccine on a priority basis.

"In the first phase, 1.50 crore people, which is 8.68 percent of the country's population, will be vaccinated. They will receive two vaccine shots in the span of two weeks," Hasina said.

All three crore doses of the vaccine manufactured by the Serum Institute of India (SII) will be delivered to Bangladesh within six months, she said.

She made the comments while answering a query of a lawmaker. PM's answer was tabled at the beginning of the day's sitting at the House.

The prime minister said the groups, who will be vaccinated on a priority basis, were identified as per the guidelines from the <u>World Health Organisation's</u> Scientific Advisory Group of Experts or SAGE and the situation in the country.

A total of 4,52,027 frontline government health workers will be on the priority list, she said.

Besides, a total of 6,00,000 non-government health workers, 2,10,000 freedom fighters, 5,46,620 frontline law enforcers, 3,60,913 armed forces members, and others, 50,000 government officials essential to run the administration, 50,000 frontline media workers, 178,298 elected representatives, 150,000 staff members of city corporations and municipalities will be on the priority list.

Hasina also said that 5,41,000 religious representatives, 75,000 people involved in funeral services, 4,00,000 emergency service providers for water, electricity, fire service and, 1,50,000 staffers of air, land, and seaports, 1,20,000 unskilled expatriate workers, 4,00,000 field-level government officials, 1,97,621 bankers, 6,25,000 cancer, tuberculosis and HIV patients, 1,03,26,658 people aged between 64 to 79 years, 13,12,973 people aged over 80 years, and 21,863 players will be on the list also.

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