

Accelerated COVID-19 vaccination for Sri Lankans

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Sri Lanka has fared well in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, due to its well-established and robust public health system. Distortions and non-scientific facts impeded the Ministry of Health's early response and mitigation process in the initial stages but were decisively defeated by excellent health promotional strategies. Most significantly, in this global crisis, when the country faces serious challenges, the efficient and effective mass immunization program that presently encompasses the entire country should

be emphasized. Despite global vaccine shortage and monopoly, the government was able to secure two doses of COVID vaccines and a booster shot required to vaccinate its citizenry. The successful vaccination campaign, on the other hand, reflects a well-planned and tailored primary health care approach, open and honest communication, people's understanding and readiness to receive COVID-19 immunization and the public's continued trust in the Sri Lankan public health system.



Photo credit: Dr Sarath Mandalawatta