



Confederation of Indian Industry

## **Mr T V Narendran, President, CII on PM's Address to the Nation on Vaccine Procurement**

(Press Release by CII posted on 7 June 2021)

Welcoming the decision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister for Central Government procuring vaccines and providing these to the states, Mr T V Narendran, President, CII said, "The announcements by the Hon'ble Prime Minister today are welcome moves in the critical task of ensuring quick rollout of vaccines. Centralisation of procurement will ensure uniformity of procurement prices and create bandwidth among states to manage inoculation of their adult populations. This would also ensure an equitable allocation of vaccines in states and was a key ask of CII too. Making the vaccines available for all the eligible population free of cost will go a long way in protecting the citizens and resuming normal economic activities at the earliest."

Mr Narendran noted, "Hon'ble Prime Minister has retained the vaccine procurement of 25% by the private sector which will enable industry to contribute to the vaccination drive and target workers better. CII has been setting up vaccine camps in industrial areas in partnership with corporates for fast-tracking vaccination of workers, their families and members of communities around the companies. CII is also organizing an intensive communication outreach program, including in rural and remote areas, to align with the Government's endeavour to overcome vaccine hesitancy. In addition, CII's concern and advocacy regarding protecting the poor from loss of livelihoods has been addressed by the Prime Minister's announcement of extending the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana until November 2021 to ensure free food grains to weaker sections of society."