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“COVID-19 VACCINE POLITICS OF INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO INDIA- BANGLADESH DIPLOMATIC RELATION”

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Abstract: After COVID-19 pandemic, anti COVID vaccination is an important tool to combat COVID- 19 health hazard. In early time India government lead by Prime Minister Modi adopted Neighbourhood first policy. India's vaccination drive to the neighbouring country Strengthen said policy. India manufacturing two vaccines (Covaxine and Covishield) by indigenous Indian Pharmaceutical company. By these two vaccines India also included into five major anti Corona virus vaccine producing countries with US UK Russia and China. India's vaccination exporting policy to neighbour friend help Them to overcome COVID-19 pandemic. India's vaccine Maître programmed provides Vaccination to Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Myanmar, and Bhutan. The decision of Providing vaccine to neighbouring countries is a showcase to maintain faithful Commitment to the Neighbourhood first policy (NFP), which was declared by PM Modi. All Stakeholder of neighbouring country like Bangladesh Nepal and Bhutan Express their Thanks to India for this live saver attempted. Vaccine diplomacy by Indian government Increases role of India in International politics in south Asia and world. My present paper is an attempt to India's vaccination diplomacy with special interest to neighbouring countries in the light of PM Narendra Modi's Neighbourhood First Policy.

Keywords: COVID- 19, Health hazard, Neighborhood First Policy, vaccine Maîtrise, Diplomacy

I. INTRODUCTION

Vaccine diplomacy is a branch of medical diplomacy who is deals with uses of vaccine to improve se countries relationships with other countries India has the capacity to manufacture near 3 million COVID vaccine dose per year

cost vaccine production Indian vaccine who is benefiting countries with low income specially underdeveloped and developing countries, the countries with low incomes. covaxine is the first Indian vaccine by Bharat biotech in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research ICMR National Institute of virology. another vaccine is coveshield developed by Oxford

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University and AstraZeneca. it is manufactured by Indian company serum Institute of India which is leading exporter and manufacturer. beside this Indian government also given no objection and permission to sputnik V vaccine, which is also important vaccine. Beside this COVAX (Serum institute), and ZYCOB D also low cost vaccine manufactured in India. India has exported nearly 60 million doses of vaccine to the various countries including neighbouring country like Bangladesh Nepal Bhutan Sri Lanka Myanmar. In fact India's has topmost parity to supply covid-19 vaccine India neighbouring countries specially Bangladesh Nepal Bhutan Sri Lanka. Diplomacy of India on vaccine put it in competition with China. in fact quality of Chinese vaccine is a issue of discussion. Test data and transparency of Chinese vaccine also have been questioned. in this situation India has great opportunity to build confidence into South Asian politics buy the supplies of covid-19 vaccine and different types of medicine who is used to combat COVID19 virus

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY-

First Prime Minister Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru does Prime Minister and minister of external affairs, he was main founding father of panchsheel policy. After Prime Minister Nehru Lal Bahadur Shastri managed Indian foreign policy with

the neighboring countries on the basis of no alignment but India first important challenges from neighbors nuclear explosion buy China in October 1964 5 wire between India and Pakistan. After sudden death of PM Shastri in 1966 lead to emergence of Indira Gandhi as a prime minister of India. Gandhi was a unique Prime Minister of India. She has taken importance roles to creation of Bangladesh, now important neighbors of India. she also presided Shimla agreement 1972 and try to restore rate relation between India and Pakistan. after pm Gandhi assassination Her son Rajeev Gandhi became a prime minister of India Rajiv Gandhi also try to maintain peaceful relation with neighbors. but there were a tension in Sri Lankan Tamil issue. Unfortunately he was killed by a suicide bomber. Then VP Singh and Chandrasekhar was Prime Minister but their tenure was very little. Under pm Narsimha Rao government look East policy was launched in 1991. Indra Kumar Gujral as appointed foreign minister in 1996 under H D Deve Gowda government. I K Gujral regarded as a founder of Gujral doctrine. Gujral doctrine is set of policy which essentially promotes good relations and Accommodation with neighbors without any special expectation. The most significant achievement of Gujarat doctor in was a conscious decision to make Indian Foreign Policy list Pakistan's centric. Dr

Manmohan Singh and United progressive Alliance government also takes various initiative to improvement relationship with neighboring countries, Various agreement Pact, MOU has been signed with neighbors. Prime Minister Narendra Modi came into power after Manmohan Singh. PM Modi has to promote a model of India led regionalism suitable to the neighbors. PM Modi act East policy is very important policy concern regarding rising of China.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE-

Mandakini D Surie in a development policy blog, showed that COVID crisis has given India an opportunity to show ETV S2 the world specially neighboring countries. according to him India has been providing massive assistant to its neighboring countries by sending covid-19 medicine and vaccine. the author highlighted about PM Modi' virtual meeting on the 15th March 2020 with South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation to combat covid-19. India also contributed play sport various drug like Hydrochlorquine and Paracetamol to the neighbors and other needy countries. India also contributed play sport various drug like Hydrochlorquine and Paracetamol to the neighbors and other needy countries.

S Jaishankar, in his article remaining diplomacy in the post covid world an Indian

perspective analyzed Indians contribution to vaccine export in Nepal Bhutan Sri Lanka Brazil and Morocco; he also analyzed power of digital domain and its impact

Sohini Bose, editor the Dynamics of vaccine in diplomacy in India's neighborhood (ORF special report, no-145, June 2021) examine the Dynamics of vaccine diplomacy with special reference to India's neighborhood first policy and also highlighted various diplomatic challenge who is facing India. she briefly discuss with every neighboring countries and its diplomatic relation with India.

Kuldip Dhama (October 2021), Journal of Travel medicine, is the important literature from this regard. Mr. Kuldip briefly analyzes those different types of Indian vaccine and its efficiency. Father he also discusses about the India's contribution of vaccine exporting to different country including neighbors India's vaccine diplomacy combating pandemic, the India way- by Manish Chand (2021) showed that India has included in v5 club by two indigenous vaccine name covaxine and cove shield and reviewed Indian vaccine Maître program and its important on neighboring countries.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY-

This Research Study has flowing objectives

1. Examine and summarize India government Neighborhood policy.
2. Review of Gujral doctrine and its impact on present Neighborhood policy.
3. To evaluate Medical diplomacy of India in the light of Anti COVID 19 vaccine.
4. To study about Indian vaccine and its role combat COVID19 virus in Neighboring countries
5. Role of Vaccine Diplomacy by India, to Strengthen Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Neighborhood First Policy.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY-

The research paper work for this paper based on qualitative. Most of the data collected from secondary sources like various journals, Magazine, and Newspaper. I also take data from various government Website of India and its neighboring countries.

MAJOR FINDING AND DISCUSSION-

Indian foreign policy focused on good relation with its neighbor. India has cultural similarity with neighboring countries. Regional hegemony of India related with neighboring countries. India share Land and maritime boundaries with eight countries Bangladesh, Pakistan, China, Myanmar, Srilanka, Nepal, Bhutan, and Maldives.

According to noted writer of Indian foreign policy VP dutt. Said "Neighborhood must enjoy primacy in Foreign policy making India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru strained the importance of keeping foreign power out of Asia and Indian subcontinent was an exclusive sphere of Delhi but signed friendship treaty with Nepal, Bhutan and panchasheel treaty with China.. Former prime Minister of India Smt Indira Gandhi had unique role to creation of Bangladesh in 1971. This is important neighbor to India. Gujral Doctrine was enunciated in September 1996 by foreign minister I K Gujral of HD Dave Gouda Government. Main theme of Gujral doctrine is no country of south Asia interferes with each other, Mutual respect, and peaceful co- existence. Former prime minister Atal bihari Vajpayee said that friend can change but not neighbor who have to live together. Prime Minister MODI, NDA Government took charge of government with effect from 26 may 2014 and the presence of all SARRC members our prime minister launched Neighborhood first policy.

India provided medical AIDS at different phases to most trustful neighbor Bangladesh. Surgical marks, head cover gloves, HCQ tablets and RT PCR test kit was given to Bangladesh. Bangladesh also facilitated by different types of online course in Bengali language which was

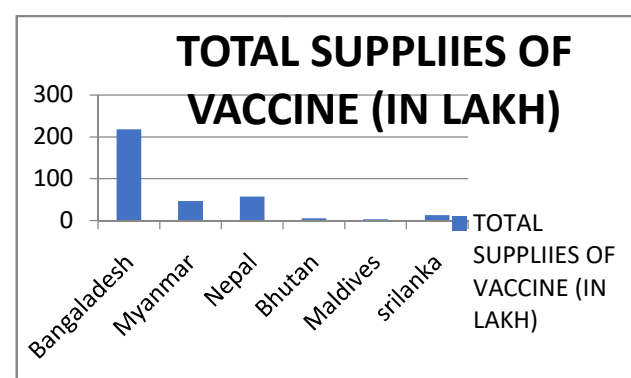
design by government of India, during covid 19 pandemic. The Repatriation more than 500 Bangladeshi National from India facilitated during covid19 pandemic. India gifted to Bangladesh mobile oxygen plant of INS Savitri, oxygen Express to transport liquid medical oxygen which was life saving equipment during covid 19 pandemic.

Diplomacy is an important part Indian foreign policy and neighbor policy. Diplomacy is a set of principles by which a country, group, society or individual maintain peaceful relation with others. Vaccine Diplomacy is a part or branch of medical diplomacy in which a nation uses delivery of vaccine to secure good relation with other nation. After COVID19 pandemic it is very important strategy to gain diplomatic faithfulness by a Nation. India has mainly three vaccine COVAXINE (Bharat biotech with collaboration of ICMR and national institute of virology) COVESHIELD (Oxford and Serum institute of India) Sputnik v India delivered millions of vaccine (COVID -19) as gift to the low income neighboring countries except Pakistan, from where there was no request to free vaccine. No country has delivered millions of vaccine like India. Most of the Indian vaccine exporting needy neighbor is free of cost. There is some figure of vaccine export to neighboring countries.

NEIGHBOURING COUNTRY VACCINE SUPPLIED BY INDIA AS ON 10/12/2021

COUNTRY	VACCINE SUPPLIES
Bangladesh	218.008
Myanmar	47
Nepal	57.575
Bhutan	5.5
Maldives	3.12
Srilanka	12.64

SOURCE- GOVT OF INDIA, HEALTH MINISTRY, 2021-22



There are geopolitical considerations behind free vaccine to the neighbouring countries with growing strategic footprint of China. Eventually India supplied more vaccine of COVID 19 compare to China. Beside this Chinese vaccine suffering from Test data transparency and quality of china vaccine have been questioned by medical expert of different countries

India wants to eliminate corona virus not only from inside the country, from neighbouring friend countries to overcome COVID pandemic. India supplies millions of vaccine under pm Narendra Modi's VACCINE maître programme (January 2021). It is strengthen Indian culture BASUDHAIVA KUTUMMBAKAM,

which means the whole world is a family. Programme of vaccine maître programme by Government of India to fulfil commitment of Neighbourhood First Policy. Nepal prime minister KP Oli Twitted "I thanks Prime Minister Narendra Modi and people of India for COVID19 vaccine to Nepal. Bangladesh, Bhutan, srilanka also express their gratitude to Indian government.

India earning long term good will by vaccine supplies as a gift or free of cost to needy neighbour. Early shipment of COVID 19 Vaccine helps India to counter Chinese strategies. India is appreciating by whole world including western countries to help neighbouring countries who are not affording high cost vaccine, While India continuously trying to secure permanent membership to permanent membership in the security council of United Nations. Now India established herself as global supply centre of low cost vaccine.

CONCLUSION-

Vaccine diplomacy is an important strategy to India for strengthen Neighbour policy and draw a portrait of good image to the world instead direct aid to the weaker section of the world. But India has to balance with domestic need of COVID vaccine. There are many challenges to India with huge population and their vaccination with same time to get diplomatic benefit from neighbour by

offering COVID19 vaccine.

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