



drishti

Recovery Curve and Case Rate Curve

 drishtias.com/printpdf/recovery-curve-and-case-rate-curve

Why in News

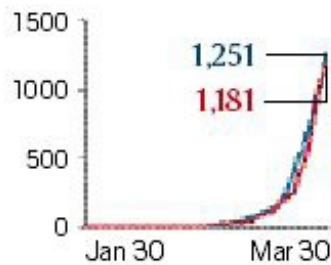
The recovery rate of **Covid-19** patients in **India aligns closely with the curve of confirmed cases**, with a **lag of two weeks**, according to an examination of absolute numbers of the cases.

RECOVERY CURVES: INDIA AND WORLD

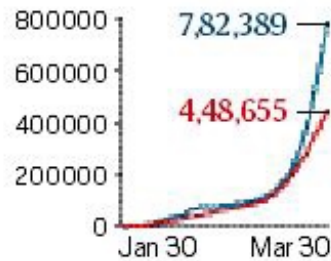
- Cases
- Recovered 14 days later

Dates on x-axis correspond to graph of cases only. Graph of recovered based on extrapolated data from 14 days later.

India: Cases and recovered



World: Cases and recovered



Key Points

- For making the **global comparison**, data from the **Johns Hopkins University database** was used.
- Mapping the **global number of Covid-19 patients who recovered** largely mimics the **global case load**, with a **14-day lag**.
 - However, the **high recovery rate does not take into account the severity of the disease** during the recovery process.
- Indian graph shows that the **mortality rate in India is lower than global rates**, so far.
- The graph for global rates shows the **overall recovery rate as significantly flatter than the caseload**.
 - The **cases worldwide are growing** exponentially but the global recovery rate has begun to fall flat.
 - Globally, there is **considerable research on the mortality of Covid-19** but there is **less literature to help understand the patterns of recovery**.

- **Science of the Curves:**

- The two curves would **align exactly** if **everyone who fell sick on Day 1 recovered 14 days later**.
- Any **discrepancy** between the two lines is either **due to people who fell sick and died**, or **people who recovered earlier or later than the mean period of 14 days**.
- People who recover before 14 days and the people who recover after 14 days, almost balance out each other and do not hamper the curve.
- This **leaves only accounting for those who die**.
This is probably why the recovered curve is lower than the infected curve in the global figure.

- **Recovery Time for Covid-19**

- There is **no established recovery time** of Covid-19 patients.
Recovery is measured by a **patient no longer showing symptoms** and **having two consecutive negative tests for the virus at least one day apart**.
- According to an early **World Health Organisation** (WHO) report, **mild cases** have a recovery time of **roughly two weeks** and **severe cases** have the recovery time of somewhere **between three to six weeks**.
- However, **countries measure recovery differently**.
- The **number of the global recoveries** will inevitably be an **estimate** in the **absence of global recovery rates by the WHO** and **uniform methods of reporting recoveries**.

Source: IE