



Report on Pandemic Threat

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Global Preparedness Monitoring Board (GPMB), According to a report released by the the chances of a global pandemic are growing and the world is not prepared for the same.

- **'A World At Risk'** India's principal scientific advisor, **Dr K Vijay Raghavan**. The report titled has been authored by 15 global scientists and public health leaders, including
- **World Bank World Health Organization (WHO)**. It is co-convened by the and the
- WHO tracked 1,483 epidemics in 172 countries between 2011 and 2018.

Key Findings

- **Epidemic-prone diseases**, such as influenza, Ebola, Zika, plague, yellow fever and others, are harbingers of a new era of high-impact, potentially fast-spreading outbreaks that are more frequently detected and increasingly difficult to manage.
- **Reasons Behind frequency:** Population growth, urbanisation, globally integrated economy, widespread and faster travel, conflict, migration and climate change.
- **Possible Impact:** A pandemic equivalent to the 1918 Spanish Flu could kill 80 million and wipe out nearly 5% of the global economy, devastating health systems and hitting low-resourced communities the hardest.
- **Indian Context: threats of Nipah zoonotic influenza viruses** India has handled the and quite well. However, the threat of a devastating pandemic looms large on the world and India remains highly vulnerable.

- **Suggestions:**
 - **Intergovernmental organisations, to strengthen funding mechanisms,** donors and multilateral institutions need to come together information sharing and continuous monitoring.
 - **Multilateral financing organisations integrate preparedness into replenishments,** like the International Monetary Fund and World Bank need to national and international financial risk assessments, incentive systems and funding mechanisms.
 - **Increasing country preparedness**
 - raising funding,
 - doing more research into new technologies, vaccines and medicines,
 - establishing rapid communication systems,
 - launching a coordinated government, industry and community response;
 - and following through on international commitments.

by

 - **competent health system:**
 - Building high health system capability for prevention, effective surveillance, early detection and containment and appropriate management of any cases.
 - **health workforce** This requires a sufficiently large and well-skilled with public health expertise and well-resourced health care infrastructure apart from robust health information systems that can provide early alerts.
- Investing in building a

Global Preparedness Monitoring Board

- **May 2018.** Created in response to recommendations by the UN Secretary General's Global Health Crises Task Force in 2017, the GPMB was co-convened by the World Health Organization and the World Bank Group and formally launched in
- **independent monitoring and accountability body preparedness for global health crises.** It is an to ensure
- Its secretariat is located in Geneva, Switzerland.

Source: HT