

Vaccine Diplomacy and Implication for Global Order

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Abstract

“Vaccine diplomacy is the use of vaccine to improve the intra-relation between country and global cooperation. Indian vaccines have been flown to most of the country’s neighbours, including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Myanmar, and Nepal, and also farther afield, to the Seychelles, Cambodia, Mongolia, and Pacific Island, Caribbean, and African countries. Vaccine play a wide role in neighbours and India came as a big brother in covid-19. AS a country vaccine became a key of soft power for india and “vaccine nationalism”. The vaccine diplomacy term giving a new rise of power as compare China and Pakistan, COVID-19 are world Problem but India as compare their neighbour they easily tackle and make their own solution. The Indian government supply cheap vaccine to tackle the china and provide reliable and good quality of vaccine in World. The Indian media treated both as a diplomatic victory, and it seems clear Sri Lanka will depend largely on India for vaccine and to be recognize as a global power.”

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I. INTRODUCTION

Diplomacy has been practiced for a centuries during the past decade and which involve many actors and venues. “Diplomacy can be defined as the conduct of international relations by negotiation and dialog or by any other means to promote peaceful relations among states.”¹ They largely define in single word and is crucial for the understanding of basic functional and normative need in international system. This paper present the cooperation and conflict in international relation by diplomatic method, and discuss the soft power diplomacy through vaccine of covid-19 in global order. “A set of vaccine diplomacy means the science diplomacy which is a hybrid of elements of global health diplomacy and science diplomacy, e the term “vaccine science diplomacy” narrowly to refer to the joint development of life-saving vaccines and related technologies, with the major actors typically scientists”.² “An underlying theme of both vaccine and vaccine science diplomacies is that vaccines are unique in comparison to other medical or public health interventions.”³

THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT

“The first vaccine discovered in modern times was in 1798 by Britain's Edward Jenner, who found that cowpox administered as an inoculum could prevent smallpox, the term vaccine is derived from *vacca*, the Latin term for “cow”. Because smallpox produced such devastating and massive killer epidemics “ (Bazin 2000)⁴. “The next set of vaccines, including a new rabies vaccine, was developed almost one hundred years later by France's Louis Pasteur. In a speech at the inauguration of his institute in Paris in 1888, Pasteur stated that “science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity and is the torch which illuminates the world” (chura nov 2012)⁵. “Before the close of the century, scientists from the Pasteur Institute spread out to create a network of laboratories in Francophone countries in Indo-china (beginning with the Saigon Pasteur Institute [1891]) and North Africa “⁶. “Vaccine science diplomacy entered its golden age during the Cold War between the US and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). Between 1956 and 1959, Dr. Albert Sabin from the US traveled to the USSR and collaborated with his Soviet virology counterparts, including Dr. Mikhail Chumakov, to develop a prototype oral polio vaccine and test it on 10 million Soviet children and ultimately 100 million people under the age of 20”⁷.

¹ (Cornago december 2008)

² (Hotez June 2014)

³ Ibid 2

⁶ (Hotez June 2014)

⁷ Ibid 4

MODERN DAY VACCINE DIPLOMACY

Today, the covid-19 pandemic has been rise to various new or newly term in the world. “In early February, half a million doses of the Chinese Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine arrived in Pakistan, before soon also reaching 13 other countries including Cambodia, Nepal, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe. The Chinese ambassador to Pakistan declared it a “manifestation of our brotherhood”, a sentiment echoed by the Pakistani government. Russia has similarly used its own Sputnik V vaccine to win friends and support, providing access to countries as yet unable to start their own vaccination programmes”.⁸ “But in developing vaccines for its own use, the Global North overlooked the prohibitive cost of the Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson vaccines for poorer countries. Indian-made vaccines, on the other hand, are reportedly safe, cost-effective, and – unlike some others – do not require storage and transport at very low. Temperatures.” (tharoor Mar 11, 2021). India has been export dose of the novel-corona virus vaccine their neighbouring countries and they already delivered the vaccine to Maldives and Bhutan as grant and gift. Recently the India drug controller approve for two vaccine. - COVISHIELD by Serum Institute of India and COVAXIN by Bharat Biotech.

COVISHIELD: It is the name given to an Oxford-AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine which is technically referred to as CoVid-19.

COVAXIN: It is India’s only indigenous Covid-19 vaccine. This vaccine has been found to be safe and no major side effects are expected Of the two vaccines, COVAXIN is an inactivated vaccine whereas COVISHIELD is a live vaccine.

Vaccine diplomacy is the weapon of global south name of health diplomacy, which means the nation uses the development or delivery of vaccine they strength the nation and coming technologies relationship between the participating countries. India could provide their power and promote their foreign policy and diplomatic relation with global south and global north. “India had earlier supplied hydroxychloroquine, Remdesivir and paracetamol tablets, as well as diagnostic kits, ventilators, masks, gloves and other medical supplies to a large number of countries to help them deal with the pandemic”⁹.

Importance of India’s Vaccine Diplomacy

• DELIBRATE POLITICS

Earning long term benefits from neighboring India shall earn the long-term goodwill of its immediate neighbours and across Indian ocean countries. : By financing shipments from India’s assistance programmes for cash-strapped neighbouring countries. : “China recently offered its vaccines to Nepal, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh as it held a multilateral dialogue with the four countries and Pakistan on anti-epidemic prevention. Early shipment from India in these countries could help counter China’s vaccine and mask diplomacy in its neighbourhood”¹⁰. “Leverage over western countries: While the affluent western world, notably the US and Europe, are focused almost exclusively on their own problems, India is being appreciated for helping its neighbours and developing countries, who could not afford US and European vaccines”¹¹. “These vaccines underscore the Make in India project of indigenous manufacturing and seal India’s growing reputation as a global pharmacy of the world. These vaccines also mark India’s entry into the exclusive V5 club- the five anti-corona vaccine-producing powers which includes the US, UK, Russia, China and India”¹².

“The COVID-19 pandemic is taking its toll across the globe. As of November 23, 2020, the virus has already infected more than 57.8 million people around the world and caused more than 1,377,000 deaths. The successful development of a safe and effective vaccine and its mass production followed by its fair and equitable distribution on a global scale seems to be the biggest hope and ultimate solution to the pandemic. Connecting and uniting the world to combat coronavirus is at the core of the current global agenda. For equitable development and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, a pledging event, called the Coronavirus Global Response Initiative, was hosted by the European Union (EU) on May 4, 2020. For research into COVID-19 vaccines, testing, and treatment, 7.4 billion euros were pledged by world leaders, celebrities, and philanthropists. The United States (US), Russia, India, Argentina, and Brazil did not participate in this initiative.”¹³. “Vaccine nationalism refers to the ‘my country first’ approach of some resourceful countries to secure priority access to doses of emerging COVID-19 vaccines for their populations through advance purchase agreements (APAs), adversely impacting equitable distributive outcomes for other”¹⁴ Vaccine nationalism aren’t term in world but

⁸ (Jennings February 23, 2021)

⁹ (Dhristi n.d.)

¹⁰ (drishti n.d.)

¹¹ ibid

¹² (Chand 2021)

¹³ (Abbas NOVEMBER 2020)

¹⁴ IBID

they use as a weapon of foreign policy and became a diplomatic leader in the world. “Vaccine nationalism is a selfish approach which carries ethical implications as it tends to deprive the most deserving high-risk people in other countries to prioritise even the least urgent needs of wealthy nations. Such a morally reprehensible approach “would mean that a robust American 20-year-old in a town largely devoid of infection would have a higher priority than a South African doctor or a nursing mother in Ghana or an elderly person with tuberculosis in Nigeria”¹⁵.

FUTURE DIRECTION AND SEE AHEAD

While we see the history and future of vaccine diplomacy are impressive, but they have a over leaching and play a major role in foreign policy. “In 2009, President Obama traveled to Cairo where he spoke out about engaging scientists in the Muslim world and extending a hand in science diplomacy”¹⁶. The vaccine diplomacy create soft power war between nation, the name of nationalism. The United Nation clearly that vaccine not a part of war it’s a part of welfare, but identity politics create a vaccine diplomacy of vaccine war in future. The identity of politics are a weapon of nation and they use as bio-war. According to Dr. Mohammed Rokni, “ the US and Iran and provided as an example the opportunity for developing a vaccine for leishmaniasis, which has devastated areas of conflict in the Middle East and North Africa”¹⁷ “Similar opportunities exist in order to partner with nations such as Cuba, which has considerable technical expertise both in producing and delivering vaccine”¹⁸ . But in India the vaccine became a huge opportunity in foreign policy and became Asia big brother, the vaccine race between China and India where India’s vaccine became as a great other china vaccine they already export their vaccine in their neighbouring countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Myanmar, and Nepal, and also farther afield, to the Seychelles, Cambodia, Mongolia, and Pacific Island, Caribbean, and African countries. Vaccine play a wide role in neighbours and India came as a big brother in covid-19. “There is also an unspoken subtext: rivalry with China, with which tensions have intensified following clashes along the Himalayan frontier. Not only has India overshadowed China as a provider of cheap and accessible vaccines to the Global South; it has been quicker and more effective. For example, China has announced 300,000 doses for Myanmar but is yet to deliver any, while India quickly supplied 1.7 million. Similarly, Indian vaccines beat China’s into Cambodia and Afghanistan”¹⁹ “India is using the country’s capacity in this sector subtly to advertise an alternative to China’s economic and geopolitical dominance”²⁰.

II. CONCLUSION

It is important that the covid-19 are pandemic situation and ends for all, not just for huge population of world but advance purchase of vaccine create shortage in another country. The vaccine diplomacy are create trouble and tension in inter and intra relationship both, but focus on re-establishing values of international solidarity, multilateralism, equality, and global cooperation. The intellectual property act are create seek in covid-19 vaccine during in pandemic situation. But in united nation agenda not for community or country, their agenda 2030 for whole world sustainable development. According to world health organisation “They can be and should be a possible multilateral forum for the creation of such a framework. Article 19 of the WHO Constitution authorizes the World Health Assembly (WHA) to adopt conventions or agreements with respect to any matter within the competence of the Organization”²¹. To address these concerns, this study recommends that an enforceable global framework should be negotiated on a priority basis that treats vaccines as global public goods.

¹⁵ Ibid10

Advance purchase agreements are “legally binding contracts whereby one party, such as a government, commits to purchasing from a vaccine manufacturer a specific number or percentage of doses of a potential vaccine at a negotiated price if it is developed, licensed, and proceeds to manufacture”. See Alexandra L. Phelan, Mark Eccleston-Turner, Michelle Rourke, Allan Maleche, and Chenguang Wang, "Legal agreements: barriers and enablers to global equitable COVID-19.

¹⁶ (keoing 2002)

¹⁷ (PJ Hotez may 2014)

¹⁸ ibid

¹⁹ (tharoor Mar 11, 2021)

²⁰ ibid

²¹ (Peter March 2019)

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