



Media Scanning & Verification Cell



Media alert from the Media Scanning & Verification Cell, IDSP-NCDC.

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6481	14.12.2021	14.12.2021	Gautam Budh Nagar Uttar Pradesh	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/noida/three-uk-returnees-among-5-travellers-from-abroad-test-covid-positive-in-noida/articleshowprint/88265754.cms
Title:	Five travellers from at-risk countries test Covid positive in district Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU – Gautam Budh Nagar, SSU – Uttar Pradesh			

Five persons, who arrived in GB Nagar recently from the United Kingdom, which is among the “at-risk” countries, and Singapore, have tested positive for Covid-19 infection amid concerns over the new Omicron variant of the virus, district officials said on Monday. Singapore was taken off the list last week. A sixth person, who had returned to India from the US on November 20, also tested positive for the infection, officials said.

Two of the patients, officials said, who were identified and brought to the Noida Covid Hospital’s special ward for travellers from foreign countries after they tested positive for the virus, had allegedly left the facility without informing the staff on Sunday evening. The patients — a mother-daughter duo and residents of Sector 137 who had recently travelled to Singapore — were later traced and brought back to the hospital on Monday.

“They felt uncomfortable staying in the hospital and returned home while the hospital staffers were completing the formalities to admit them. After the hospital

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Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), National Centre for Disease Control,
Ministry Of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India

22-Sham Nath Marg, Delhi – 110 054

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administration came to know about it, they alerted the health department. When a team of police and health officials reached the address provided by the woman, only her parents were found at the house. After the team counselled her parents and informed them about the violation of Covid protocols by the woman, the two patients returned to the hospital early on Monday,” officials said.

According to officials, the three others include a couple and their five-year-old son, all residents of Sector 44 who had recently returned from the UK, which is among the “at-risk” nations. While samples of all the five persons have been sent for genome sequencing to the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) on Monday, officials said the patients were asymptomatic and were currently admitted in an isolation ward at the Sector 39 hospital.

On Monday, three more persons from different parts of the district were also tested positive for Covid positive, including a 45-year-old man who had returned from the US on November 20, when the alert for foreign travellers was not in place. The man was planning to return back to the US and had got himself tested when he was found positive for the virus. Currently, he is in home isolation, officials said.

So far, the GB Nagar administration has received a list of around 4,729 people who have returned from abroad, including 1,101 from “at-risk” nations. Of them, around 190 have been tested till Sunday, officials said. Ghaziabad, which has received a list of 3,569 travellers from foreign nations, has tested 626 so far. No one has been found positive in the district.

Currently, there are 24 active cases in GB Nagar, which is the second-highest in the state after Lucknow with 29 cases. On the third spot is Ghaziabad with 20 active cases.

A senior health official, meanwhile, said the Covid guidelines have been activated in GB Nagar and teams have been deployed for tracing contacts of the travellers from foreign countries. “The number of rapid response teams has also been increased and private hospitals have been asked to remain on an alert so that they can be converted into a Covid facility at a short notice,” the official added.

As per the latest government travel guidelines, travellers from “at-risk” nations are required to follow additional measures on arrival, including post-arrival testing. Meanwhile, all travellers from foreign countries, who test positive for Covid, are required to be admitted to a special Covid isolation facility for monitoring. As per the latest government travel guidelines, all passengers, whose lists are made available to the health department by the government, are required to be continuously monitored through phone for seven days by the integrated Covid command and control room. In case any person develops symptoms, the health department is required to send their RRT teams and get them tested for the infection.

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