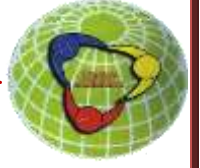




Media Scanning & Verification Cell



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

Alert ID	Publication Date	Reporting Date	Place Name	News Source/Publication Language
6483	15.12.2021	15.12.2021	Hyderabad Telangana	www.firstpost.com/English https://www.firstpost.com/health/omicron-spreads-further-in-india-three-cases-detected-in-telangana-total-tally-rises-to-64-10212831.html
Title:	Omicron spreads further in India Three cases detected in Telangana, total tally rises to 64			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU – Hyderabad, SSU – Telangana			

The Omicron variant, which is spreading at an ‘unprecedented rate’, according to the World Health Organization, has found its way to Telangana with the state recording three cases on Wednesday.

According to reports, a 24-year-old Kenyan woman, a 23-year-old Somalian man and a seven-year-old kid, who arrived at the Hyderabad international airport on 12 December have tested positive for the new COVID-19 variant.

The seven-year-old has travelled to West Bengal, prompting the Telangana government to alert their Bengal counterparts.

With this, the tally of Omicron variant in India has crossed the 50 mark and stands at 64 on Wednesday.

Earlier on Tuesday, Rajasthan and Delhi both reported four cases each of the Omicron variant of the coronavirus.

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

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Confirming the same, Rajasthan's health minister Parsadi Lal Meena was quoted as saying by ANI, "Four more Omicron cases have been reported. The health condition of these patients is stable. All the previous Omicron cases in the state have tested COVID-19 negative now."

Delhi, too, reported four new cases, taking the total number of such infections to six in the national capital.

As of Wednesday, here's how the Omicron tally stands: Maharashtra (28), Rajasthan (17), Karnataka (3), Gujarat (4), Kerala (1) and Andhra Pradesh (1) and Union Territories of Delhi (6), Chandigarh (1) and Telangana (3).

On Tuesday, alarm bells rang in Maharashtra when it detected eight more cases of the new COVID-19 variant, seven being reported from Mumbai and one from the metropolitan's outskirts — Vasai Virar.

None of them has any history of international travel. However, one had travelled to Bangalore and another to Delhi, reported NDTV. All but one patient were vaccinated.

India reported its first cases of the Omicron variant in Karnataka's Bengaluru where two people, including a South African national of Indian origin and a doctor, tested positive for it.

Meanwhile, a senior official has reportedly told Times of India that the country could see a major surge in Omicron cases during January-February. However, the infections would likely be mild.

The official, who made the prediction based on modelling studies, however, urged people not to panic as the disease appeared to be approaching a stage of endemicity — where transmissibility would be high, but not cause severe complications.

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Page 2

