



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
6458	06.12.2021	06.12.2021	Gujarat	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/vadodara/spre-ad-of-omicron-causes-huge-concern/articleshowprint/88110630.cms
Title:	Spread of Omicron causes huge concern in Gujarat			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to SSU – Gujarat			

A day after Gujarat registered its first case of Covid-19's Omicron variant, the state is witnessing a steady rise in number of individuals suspected to be infected by the same variant, especially in Saurashtra belt.

Two close contacts of the 72-year-old man, a person of Indian origin who had returned from Zimbabwe on November 28 and tested positive of Omicron variant, have tested positive for Covid-19 on Sunday. They are also suspected to have been infected with the same variant and admitted in an isolation ward of G G hospital.

Last week, other members of his family had tested negative. But after a retest of nine persons who had come in his close contact, his 45-year-old wife who had come along with him from Zimbabwe tested positive. His 35-year-old brother-in-law, who received them at Ahmedabad airport, also tested Covid positive.

“They are close contacts of the patient, who had tested Omicron variant positive. We suspect that they are also infected with the same variant. We have sent their

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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

For more information please contact: Media Scanning & Verification Cell: - Phone (011)23946029

Email: - idsp-msc@nic.in, idsp-npo@nic.in

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samples for genome sequencing,” Vijay Kharadi, municipal commissioner of Jamnagar, said.

While both patients are asymptomatic, other close contacts are under observation in isolation while area is declared a micro containment zone.

In Limbdi town of Surendranagar district, a 48-year-old man who had returned from South Africa before three days, tested positive for Covid-19. His samples have been sent to National Institute of Virology for genome sequencing as he is being treated as a suspect.

Health officials have declared micro containment zone covering four houses in the neighbourhood while eight individuals have been put under home quarantine.

Elsewhere in the state, the number of Covid-19 cases are also witnessing a steady rise

In Vadodara, the number of fresh Covid-19 cases registered in 24 hours ending Sunday evening touched seven, taking the total number of Covid-19 cases since the beginning of the pandemic in the district to 72,351.

The fresh Covid-19 positive cases have been reported from Akota, Tarsali, Makarpura, Diwalipura, Subhanpura, Warasiya and Navi Dharti areas of the city.

The number of active cases in Vadodara stands at 53 of which condition of 48 patients is said to be stable. While four patients are on being treated under oxygen support, one patient is under ventilator support. Even as the number of active cases are in 50s, as many as 236 individuals are currently under quarantine in Vadodara. The official death toll on the other hand stands at 623, going by Vadodara Municipal Corporation’s health bulletin.

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In Surat city and district, which had seen five cases on Saturday, the number of fresh cases increased to eight.

Of the eight new cases registered on Sunday, five patients belong to a same family in Rander. Kamrej also registered one fresh positive case even as the district registered a death in 24 hours.

The five positive cases in Rander include a 16-year-old boy, a 18-year-old girl, two women aged 52 and 75 years and another 78-year-old man.

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