



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
6527	12.01.2022	12.01.2022	Raipur Chhattisgarh	www.timesofindia.com/English https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/raipur/omicron-variant-detected-in-health-min/articleshowprint/88843091.cms
Title:	Omicron variant detected in Chhattisgarh health minister in Raipur			
Action By CSU, IDSP -NCDC	Information communicated to DSU – Raipur, SSU – Chhattisgarh			

Omicron variant has been confirmed in five more genome sequencing samples, including that of Chhattisgarh health minister TS Singh Deo and four other patients in Raipur. These patients are now reported to have recovered.

Singh Deo tested Covid positive on January 2 after which his swab sample was sent for genome sequencing to Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

Among the four others, two of them have returned from UAE while the others have no travel history. The first Omicron patient was diagnosed from Bilaspur on January 5.

Chhattisgarh's epidemic control department director Dr Subhash Mishra said that sample of four Covid patients from Raipur have tested positive for Omicron variant. Hence, it is being suspected that Omicron has spread in the society. The positive samples of those returning from abroad are being sent for sequencing. The Omicron variant is tracked by sending 5% samples from each district for genome sequencing.

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Disclaimer:- This is a media alert subject to verification.

**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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Health department had confirmed Chhattisgarh's first Omicron case on January 5. A 52-year-old businessman from Bilaspur had returned from UAE on December 2, 2021. His report came positive after he completed his period of isolation. His sample was sent to Bhubaneswar on December 17. By the time his report came on January 5, he had recovered from Covid virus.

As per health officials, the number of Covid patients has increased 14 times in 10 days. On Monday itself, 4,120 new patients were found across state.

The spread of Covid cases in third wave in Chhattisgarh has been very fast. While January 1 saw a total of 279 new patients across the state, 4,120 new patients were detected on Monday. Meanwhile, 358 patients were discharged — of these, 136 people have been discharged from hospitals while 222 people have been discharged from home isolation.

Meanwhile, on Tuesday, 11 medical staff, including three doctors, two staff nurses, two staff on duty in isolation ward and four lab technician were found Covid positive infected in Korba Medical College. Due to this, there is shortage of technicians in microbiology lab for testing Covid samples.

In Janjgir-Champa, a total 10 doctors have been diagnosed Covid positive so far in Janjgir District Hospital. Superintendent Dr. Anil Jagat and pathologist Dr. Ashwini Rathore have also become infected in Janjgir District Hospital. Earlier, the report of eight doctors of the hospital came positive.

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