New Covid-19 cases (Hindustan Times: 20211216)

**INDIA'S LOGS 7,974 NEW COVID-19 CASES; ACTIVE CASELOAD DOWN TO 87,245**

The daily infections include a total of 73 cases of the new Omicron variant of the coronavirus disease from across the country.

India's Omicron tally rose to 73 with 12 new cases on Wednesday. (HT)

India registered a total of 7,974 fresh cases of Covid-19 in the last 24 hours, according to the Union health ministry bulletin on Thursday morning. The new infections are 14 per cent higher than Wednesday's tally. Meanwhile, the death toll rose to 4,76,478 with 343 more fatalities.

The active caseload has now come down to 87,245 while the recoveries rose by 7,948 to 3,41,54,879, the highest since March 2020.

The national tally of daily infections include a total of 73 cases of the new Omicron variant of the coronavirus disease after at least 12 new cases of the strain were reported across India on Wednesday.

The Omicron cases were reported in several states as follows – four each in Maharashtra and Kerala, two in Telangana, and one each in Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

Omicron cases in India were first reported on December 2 when two people in Bangalore – a 66-year-old and a 46-year-old male — tested positive for the variant.

State and central governments have, as a result, stepped up tracking and tracing the emergence of the new variant.
Meanwhile, the Union health ministry has also asked states to vigorously screen and test all passengers coming in international flights and has extended all Covid restrictions till December 31.

**Omicron in UK (Hindustan Times: 20211216)**

**OMICRON IN UK: GOVT BRINGS IN TOUGHER RULES, ACCELERATES NATIONWIDE VACCINATION**

On Wednesday, the UK added 78,610 Covid-19 cases, the highest single-day spike since the beginning of the pandemic last year. The previous spike was on January 8 this year when 68,053 cases were seen.

According to the new rules issued by Boris Johnson’s government on Wednesday, masks will have to be worn by people in most indoor settings. (via Reuters.)

The United Kingdom (UK) is currently reeling under the rapid spread of the Omicron variant of the coronavirus and reported one death due to the variant on Monday, the first-ever recorded around the globe so far.

On Wednesday, the UK added 78,610 Covid-19 cases, the **highest single-day spike** since the beginning of the pandemic last year. The previous spike was on January 8 this year when 68,053 cases were seen.

Over 11 million people have tested positive for the virus in the UK. Of these 146,791 patients have died, 9,617,941 have been discharged and the active cases stand at 1,245,554.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has imposed tougher restrictions in view of the Omicron variant, which was first detected in the UK on November 27.

**Here are the latest updates on the Omicron situation in the UK:**

> According to the new rules issued by Boris Johnson’s government on Wednesday, masks will have to be worn by people in most indoor settings.

> Proof of vaccination against Covid-19 or a negative virus test will be required to enter nightclubs and large crowded events.

> Professor Chris Whitty, the chief medical advisor to the UK government, has warned that the pandemic situation will get worse and hospital admissions will rise over the holiday period due to the emergence of Omicron and urged people to scale back their Christmas plans.

> Professor Whitty has also suggested people limit their social contacts by putting a priority on those that are the most important.
The government is accelerating its vaccination program and aims to administer booster doses to adults by the end of December. The government said that new mass vaccination centres will be opened at sports stadiums around the country soon.

**COLORECTAL CANCER (Hindustan Times: 20211216)**

**RESEARCHERS FIND COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING LAGS AMONG RURAL WOMEN**

A study has revealed that women in rural areas lag when it comes to getting screened for colorectal cancer as compared to their urban counterparts.

Researchers find colorectal cancer screening lags among rural women

A study has revealed that women in rural areas lag when it comes to getting screened for colorectal cancer as compared to their urban counterparts.

The research has been published in the 'JAMA Network Open Journal'.

The disparity may stem from a lack of access to colorectal screening in rural areas, the researchers believe. But income and insurance also may be factors: Women from families that earn USD 50,000 or more were much more likely to get screened for colorectal cancer than women from families with incomes below USD 20,000. There was no such financial correlation for breast cancer screening.

The researchers said that new efforts were needed to increase colorectal cancer screenings for rural residents.

"Using survey data from 11 states in the United States, we were able to demonstrate that rural-dwelling women had lower rates of adherence to colorectal cancer screening compared with women living in urban areas. However, both groups of women had similar rates of adherence to breast cancer screening," said researcher Rajesh Balkrishnan, PhD, University of Virginia School of Medicine and UVA Cancer Center.

"These findings suggest that colorectal cancer screening may not be as available in rural areas as breast cancer screening," he added.

To understand how often women in rural and urban areas get screened for breast and colorectal cancer, Balkrishnan and colleagues looked at responses from 2,897 women, ages 50 to 75, surveyed at 11 sites around the country, including UVA, Virginia Commonwealth University, the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

About 81 per cent of both urban and rural women were up to date on their breast cancer screenings, but only 78 per cent of rural women were following the colorectal cancer screening guidelines. In comparison, 82 per cent of urban women were getting screened for colorectal cancer.
The researchers said that the disparity in colorectal cancer screenings may stem from the slow arrival of new screening methods to rural areas. They hypothesized that fewer rural residents may be getting screened for colorectal cancer because they don't have easy access to testing. Travel times, for example, maybe a barrier, and it may be difficult for people to get time off work, especially for those with lower-paying jobs.

The researchers noted that women who had health insurance were two to three times more likely to comply with breast cancer and colorectal cancer screening guidelines than women without insurance.

"Increase in health care coverage as a result of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which included the elimination of copay for preventive health services including breast and colorectal cancer screening, has been well documented and found to be associated with an increase in screening rates for breast and colorectal cancer," the researchers wrote in a new scientific paper outlining their findings.

In response to their findings, the researchers are urging public health interventions to increase colorectal cancer screening among rural women. For example, rural residents may benefit from campaigns to increase awareness of home colorectal cancer testing that can be done by mail.

"While the rural health disparities observed in this study present substantial public health challenges, it is possible to improve cancer outcomes through appropriate public health interventions," said Balkrishnan, UVA's Department of Public Health Sciences.

"Interventions that improve patient navigation and education related to the importance of cancer screenings have a potential to improve access and use of cancer screening in rural areas," he concluded.

Yoga (Hindustan Times: 20211216)

Yoga with Pooja Batra – this time, it's the wheel

- On Wednesday, Pooja shared a short snippet of herself practising yet another yoga routine in a garden of sorts. This time, she performed the wheel for her Instagram family.

Yoga with Pooja Batra – this time, it's the wheel(Instagram/@poojabatra)

Pooja Batra is our fitness enthusiast. The actor, when not working, is usually spotted in stunning foreign locations – travelling and also scooping out time for herself to get in touch with her fitness routine. Pooja's yoga routine is a marvel to look at. The actor swears by high intensity workouts and yoga and they are super motivational for us to follow.

Pooja recently merged her love for traveling and her love for fitness with her pictures of acing several yoga routines in the Bora Bora Islands. The actor, who is a travel enthusiast,
was off to travel the Bora Bora Islands and then the USA a few weeks back. From posing with ostriches to acing yoga asanas in the deck of her resort with the sprawling waters of the sea in the backdrop, Pooja did it all in the trip. However, now she is loving it back at home. Pooja missed her living space and her own yoga mat. A few days back, Pooja shared a video of herself beating the jetlag with yoga. In her own living room, on her yoga mat, Pooja demonstrated how several yoga asanas can drive the jetlag away and make our day brighter.

On Wednesday, Pooja shared a short snippet of herself practising yet another yoga routine in a garden of sorts. This time, she performed the wheel for her Instagram family. In the picture, Pooja can be seen supporting her entire body on her feet and her palms and pushing the abdomen and the core muscles upwards to form a pyramid position with the body. Take a look:

![Pooja Batra's Instagram story](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/india-reports-7974-new-covid-cases-343-deaths-in-last-24-hours/articleshow/88311046.cms)

The yoga position, performed by Pooja, comes with multiple health benefits. It helps in stretching the accessory muscles used in breathing. It also helps in strengthening the hip flexors and the muscles of the shoulder girdle. Wheel also helps in maintaining emotional stability.

**Covid-19: India reports 7,974 new Covid cases (The Times of India: 202111216)**


India reports 7,974 new Covid cases, 343 deaths in last 24 hours

NEW DELHI: With 7,974 fresh cases having been reported in the last 24 hours, India's Covid-19 tally rose to 3,47,18,602, the Union health ministry bulletin updated on Thursday stated. The number of active cases, as per the government, declined to 87,245.
The death toll has climbed to 4,76,478 with 343 new fatalities, according to government data. The number of active cases has declined to 87,245, the lowest since March 2020.

**Covid case rise in Maharashtra (The Times of India: 20211216)**


Centre flags 19 districts in Maharashtra for weekly Covid case rise

PUNE: The ministry of health and family welfare (MoHFW), in a letter sent on Tuesday, has flagged 19 districts in Maharashtra, including Mumbai, for recording a slight rise in weekly Covid cases during the seven-day period ending December 9. Five other districts have been red-flagged for a reduction in weekly Covid testing.

**AREAS WITH FEWER TESTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT</th>
<th>NO. OF TESTS (NOV 26-DEC 2)</th>
<th>NO. OF TESTS (DEC 3-9)</th>
<th>CHANGE (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nandurbar</td>
<td>2,390</td>
<td>1,539</td>
<td>(-35.61%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashik</td>
<td>36,348</td>
<td>33,867</td>
<td>(-6.83%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aurangabad</td>
<td>10,583</td>
<td>9,794</td>
<td>(-7.46%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jalgaon</td>
<td>5,791</td>
<td>5,746</td>
<td>(-0.78%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmednagar</td>
<td>42,854</td>
<td>39,883</td>
<td>(-6.93%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LETTER EXCERPTS:** The Centre's letter stated that districts of Buldhana (88), Nandurbar (121) and Yavatmal (130) were doing fewer tests than WHO recommendation.

**FLAWED ASSESSMENT:** There is no district in Maharashtra touching 2% positivity rate. The slight rise in weekly new cases is more associated with reporting issues. A conclusion cannot be drawn on this basis — Senior health department official.
The districts flagged for a slight rise in weekly Covid cases include Mumbai, Mumbai suburban, Satara, Nagpur, Sangli, Beed, Kolhapur, Jalna, Osmanabad, Parbhani, Yavatmal, Jalgaon, Buldhana, Amravati, Gadchiroli, Hongoli, Wardha and Bhandara.

Arti Ahuja, additional secretary, MoHFW, said in the letter, “The state has reported 22,348 new cases and 781 deaths in 30-day period ending December 10 and contributed to 7.8% of India’s monthly new cases and 6.1% of the country’s monthly new deaths during the same period. Further, Maharashtra has reported a slight rise in weekly new cases from 4,116 cases (week ending December 3) to 4,456 cases (week ending December 10).”

The letter read: “It is important to note that Mumbai district is reporting the quantum of weekly new cases in the state. with 1,403 new cases reported in the week ending December 9. Further, 19 out of 36 districts reported a rise in the weekly caseload in the week ending December 9, as compared to week ending December 2.”

In the letter, Ahuja said while there has been a rise in the number of weekly tests conducted in Maharashtra, five districts reported a decline in the week ending December 9 as compared to the week ending December 2. “Major district of concern being Nandurbar, which exhibited a 35.6% week-on-week decline,” the letter said. Aurangabad, Ahmednagar, Jalgaon, Nashik were the other four districts mentioned in the letter where weekly Covid testing dropped.

A senior state public health department official, however, said, “Despite a reduction in daily Covid detections to 700 on average, the state is conducting more than 1 lakh Covid tests. The state had conducted 1.12 lakh tests on Tuesday. These testing numbers are as per WHO norms (140 tests/million/day) or even higher.”

Covid vaccine (The Times of India: 20211216)

Over 16.42 crore Covid vaccine doses available with states, UTs: Govt

NEW DELHI: Over 16.42 crore Covid vaccine doses are still available with states and Union Territories for inoculation, the Union Health Ministry said on Thursday. More than 141.80 crore vaccine doses have been provided to them so far through the Government of India (free of cost channel) and through direct state procurement category, it said.

The Union government is committed to accelerating the pace and expanding the scope of Covid-19 vaccination throughout the country.
The vaccination drive has been ramped up through availability of more vaccines, advance visibility of vaccine availability to states and Union Territories for enabling better planning by them, and streamlining the vaccine supply chain, the ministry said.

As part of the nationwide vaccination drive, the Government of India has been supporting the states and Union Territories by providing them Covid-19 vaccines free of cost.

In the new phase of the universalisation of the Covid vaccination drive, the Union government will procure and supply (free of cost) 75 per cent of the vaccines being produced by the vaccine manufacturers in the country to states and Union Territories to be administered, the ministry said.

**COVID patients are asymptomatic (The Times of India: 20211216)**


**Coronavirus: Study claims 4 in 10 COVID patients are asymptomatic**

The novel coronavirus has been unpredictable in many ways. While many develop symptoms after they contract the SARs-COV-2 virus, some fall severely ill, there are those who never develop or show any sign of an infection. What's even more interesting is that a recent study suggests about 40% of COVID-19 patients do not experience any symptoms, making them more efficient at transmitting the disease.

The study led by researchers at Peking University in China evaluated the percentage of asymptomatic infections among individuals undergoing testing (tested population) and those with confirmed Covid-19 (confirmed population).

They conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis of 95 unique studies with 29,776,306 individuals undergoing testing

The findings, published in the JAMA Network Open, showed that the asymptomatic infections were 0.25 per cent among the tested population and 40.50 per cent among the population with confirmed Covid-19.
"The high percentage of asymptomatic infections from this study highlights the potential transmission risk of asymptomatic infections in communities," said Qiuyue Ma, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, from the University.

The study found that the percentage of asymptomatic infections among the confirmed population was 54.11 per cent in pregnant women and 52.91 per cent in air or cruise travellers. The percentage was 47.53 per cent in nursing home residents or staff.

This finding of a high percentage of asymptomatic infections among air or cruise travellers suggests that screening and quarantine on airport arrival is important for reducing community transmissions, especially in countries without local transmission, Ma said.

In addition, the study also showed that the percentage of asymptomatic infections was higher among groups younger than 39 years than in other age groups, possibly because the young adults were more likely to show only mild or moderate clinical symptoms. This indicated that young adults who often presented mild or no symptoms were a potential source of transmission in the community.

"Screening for asymptomatic infection is required, especially for countries and regions that have successfully controlled SARS-CoV-2. Asymptomatic infections should be under management similar to that for confirmed infections, including isolating and contact tracing," Ma said.

**Omicron (Hindustan: 20211216)**

Omicron cases (Hindustan: 20211216)


बुधवार को ब्रिटेन में कोरोना महामारी के रिकॉर्ड मामले दर्ज हुए। एक वरिष्ठ ब्रिटिश स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी ने कहा कि एक दिन में दर्ज होने वाले कोरोना केस के सर्वाधिक मामले दर्ज हुए हैं। अगले कुछ दिनों में मामलों में चार्जेन्स वाली वृद्धि हो सकती है।

बुधवार को ब्रिटेन में कोरोना के 78,610 नए केस दर्ज हुए। ओमिक्रॉन वैरिएंट के खतरे के बीच ये अब तक के सर्वाधिक मामले हैं। इससे पहले सर्वाधिक मामले कोरोना की दूसरी लहर के बीच जनवरी में दर्ज किए गए थे। पिछले सर्वाधिक की तुलना में ये आंकड़ा 10 हजार केस अधिक है।

ब्रिटेन में अब 11 मिलियन से अधिक लोगों में संक्रमण की पुष्टि हुई है। जबकि देश की कुल आबादी 67 मिलियन है। देश में ओमिक्रॉन के बढ़ते खतरे के बीच बुधवार ने ब्रिटिश प्रधानमंत्री बोरिस जॉनसन ने उच्चारित लहर की चेतावनी दी।

हालांकि जॉनसन को मंगलवार को झटका तब लगा जब 100 से अधिक सांसदों ने कोरोना के बढ़ते प्रसार को रोकने के उपाय के खिलाफ मतदान किया। इससे पहले यूके राष्ट्र की मुख्य कार्यकारी जेमी हैरिस ओमिक्रॉन संक्रमण को महामारी की शुरुआत के बाद से बढ़ खतरा कह चुके हैं। उन्होंने संसदीय समिति को बताया, "अगले कुछ दिनों में कोरोना केसों में उछाल आ सकता है। पिछले आंकड़े की तुलना में इस बार केस काफी चार्जेन्स वाले हो सकते हैं।"

हैरिस ने कहा कि वायरस के नए संक्रमण की संक्रमण दर बेहद तेज है। ओमिक्रॉन संक्रमण के सबसे ज्यादा मामले लंदन और मैनचेस्टर में ज्यादा है। ओमिक्रॉन के 10,000 से अधिक मामले दर्ज किए गए हैं। जिनमें कम से कम 10 लोग अस्पताल में भर्ती हैं। लंदन में ओमिक्रॉन संक्रमित शख्स की मौत चिंता पैदा करते लोग हैं।
कोरोना का नया वैरिएंट ओमिक्रॉन दुनियाभर के कई देशों में अपने पैर जमा चुका है। देश के महानगरों जैसे मुंबई, अहमदाबाद और बेंगलुरु में भी ओमिक्रॉन के नए केस निलंबित पैदा करने वाले हैं। ऐसे में लोगों के जीवन में बूस्टर डोज की मांग बढ़ रही है। विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि कोरोना की तीसरी लहर निश्चित है। ऐसे में लोगों की सुरक्षा के लिए विशेष कर हेल्थकेयर वर्कर्स, कम एंटीबॉडी और बुजुर्गों के लिए बूस्टर खुराक का रोडमैप बनाया जाना चाहिए।

नए कोविड-19 वैरिएंट ओमिक्रॉन के बढ़ते मामलों के बीच फोर्टिस एस्कॉर्ट्स हार्ट इंस्टीट्यूट के अध्यक्ष डॉ. अरोपक सेठ का कहना है कि "यह निश्चित है कि कोरोना की तीसरी लहर आने वाली है। ऐसे में बूस्टर खुराक के लिए एक रोडमैप विशेष रूप से उन लोगों की सुरक्षा के लिए बनाया जाना चाहिए जो हेल्थकेयर वर्कर हैं।" देश भर में ओमिक्रॉन के मामलों में वृद्धि का संज्ञान लेते हुए उन्होंने कहा, "हम वास्तविकता में जोखिम में हैं, इसलिए तैयारियों की विशेष आवश्यकता है।"

ओमिक्रॉन वैरिएंट के चित्रांकन पहलुओं पर बात करते हुए डॉ. सेठ ने कहा कि ये वैरिएंट बेहद संक्रामक है और इसमें एंटीबॉडी भी काम नहीं करती है। ओमिक्रॉन मामलों के संबंध में इंग्लैंड के उदाहरणों का हवाला देते हुए उन्होंने कहा, "इंग्लैंड में जिन लोगों का टीकाकरण नहीं हुआ है और जिनकी एंटीबॉडी कम है, उन्हें अस्पताल में भर्ती कराया जा रहा है।" हालांकि, उन्होंने आशा व्यक्त की कि यह वैरिएंट एक आपत्तिकालीन समस्या पैदा नहीं करेगा जिसके लिए ऑक्सीजन की आवश्यकता होगी।

Covid-19 third wave (Hindustan: 20211216)


जरूर आए तीसरी लहर, बचने के लिए बूस्टर शॉट अनिवार्य ... ओमिक्रॉन पर बोले एक्सपर्ट
वहीं दूसरी ओर, दक्षिण अफ्रीका का उदाहरण देते हुए डॉ. सेठ ने कहा, "दक्षिण अफ्रीका में ओमिक्रॉन के मामलों की संख्या में तेजी के बावजूद मौतें कम रही हैं। मुझे आशा है कि दुनिया में भी ऐसी ही स्थिति बनी रहेगी।"

बूस्टर खुराक पर निर्णय लेने के लिए भारत में संक्रमण डेटा पर एनटीएजिओ विश्लेषण पर एनएआई की रिपोर्ट पर डॉ. सेठ ने कहा, "महत्वपूर्ण सवाल यह है कि सही चरण कब है? सही समय कब है? किसके लिए बूस्टर दिया जाना चाहिए? एंटीबॉडी को दररोयर कर रहे इसके दुष्परिणाम स्पष्ट प्रमाण हैं जो हमें बताते हैं कि जब एक बूस्टर दिया जाता है, तो हम इस प्रकार के खिलाफ और भविष्य के वैरिएंट से बेहतर रूप से सुरक्षित होते हैं।"

Omicron new cases (Hindustan: 20211216)

COVID-19: कोरोना के बढ़ रहे हैं केस, देहरादून सहित इन जिलों में मिले 26 नए पॉजिटिव
हसील में काम कर रहे छह लोगों ने कोरोना पॉजिटिव जांच की। सितारगंज। तहसील का रायल्ट में काम कर रहे 6 कर्मचारी स्वास्थ्य विभाग की जांच में कोरोना पॉजिटिव मिले हैं। इसके बाद विभाग में हड़कंप मच गया है। स्वास्थ्य विभाग ने समस्त कर्मचारियों के सींपल जांच के लिए आदेश किया है। बुधवार को स्वास्थ्य विभाग की टीम तहसील कार्यालय पहुँची। यहां टीम ने तहसील के कर्मचारियों का कोरोना टेस्ट कराया। जांच में 6 कर्मचारी कोरोना पॉजिटिव पाए गए हैं। पॉजिटिव कर्मचारी तहसील में कार्य करते रहे।

पॉजिटिव कर्मचारियों की रिपोर्ट स्वास्थ्य विभाग ने तहसीलदार को सौंपी है। पॉजिटिव कर्मचारियों के बाद कार्यालय का शटर अघ्नी बंद कर दिया गया है। जिसमें पॉजिटिव कर्मचारी काम भी कर रहे हैं। सितारगंज में कोरोना पॉजिटिव का यह पहला मामला है। स्वास्थ्य विभाग की टीम प्रभारी गिरजा प्रसाद मिश्रा ने बताया कि बुधवार को तहसील कर्मियों का कोरोना टेस्ट किया गया। जिसमें 6 कर्मी पॉजिटिव मिले हैं। संक्रमितों की सूची तहसीलदार को दी गई है।

Omicron cases in maharashtra (Hindustan: 20211216)


महाराष्ट्र में ऑमिक्रॉन के 4 नए केस, जनवरी में संक्रमण के और बढ़ने का खतरा

दुनियामें ऑमिक्रॉन वैरिएंट का खतरा बढ़ता जा रहा है। महाराष्ट्र में बुधवार को ऑमिक्रॉन वैरिएंट के 4 नए मामले सामने आए। इस तरह प्रदेश में ऑमिक्रॉन संक्रमितों की कुल संख्या 32 हो गई है। महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने जनवरी में ऑमिक्रॉन के केस बढ़ने की आशंका जताई है।

कोरोना वायरस के नए वैरिएंट ऑमिक्रॉन का खतरा लगातार बढ़ता जा रहा है। बुधवार को महाराष्ट्र में 925 नए कोरोना केस सामने आए। जिसमें से चार मरीजों में ऑमिक्रॉन संक्रमण की पुष्टि हुई है। प्रदेश में बुधवार को 10 कोरोना मरीजों की मौत हुई। इस तरह प्रदेश में अभी 6,467 एक्टिव केस हैं।

जनवरी में बढ़ सकते हैं ऑमिक्रॉन के केस वहीं, राज्य में 4 नए ऑमिक्रॉन केस के साथ संक्रमितों की कुल संख्या 32 हो गई है। अंतरिक्ष मुख्य सचिव (स्वास्थ्य) डॉ प्रदीप व्यास ने राज्य मंत्रिमंडल को बताया कि राज्य
में जनवरी में बड़ी संख्या में ओमिक्रॉन के मामले देखने को मिलेंगे। "दुनिया में ओमिक्रॉन संक्रमण तेज़ी से बढ़ रहा है और महाराष्ट्र में भी मरीज मिल रहे हैं। ये मरीज न केवल बड़े शहरों में बल्कि छोटे शहरों में भी मिल सकते हैं। अगले महीने जनवरी में राज्य में बड़ी संख्या में लोग संक्रमित होंगे। व्यास ने ये बातें केबिनेट को बताई।

स्वास्थ्य विभाग के बयान के अनुसार बुधवार को पाए गए सभी ओमिक्रॉन मरीजों की ट्रेवल हिस्ट्री विदेश थी या वे विदेशी यात्रियों के संपर्क में थे। बयान में कहा गया है, "प्रारंभिक जानकारी के अनुसार, उस्मानाबाद के मरीजों ने शरजाह की यात्रा की और एक अन्य मरीज का संपर्क उच्च जोखिम वाले शहर से था। बुलढाना के मरीज ने दुबई की यात्रा की थी, जबकि मुंबई के मरीज ने आयरलैंड की यात्रा की थी।"

मरीजों में एक नाबालिग

नए मरीजों में एक नाबालिग और कम से कम एक बजुर्ग शामिल हैं। चार नए मामलों में तीन पुरुष और एक महिला शामिल हैं। संक्रमित मरीजों को अस्पताल में अलग-अलग रखा गया है। इन सभी मरीजों में कोरोना के कोई लक्षण नहीं है। संक्रमित व्यक्तियों में से तीन वैक्सीनेट हैं। जबकि एक रोगी 16 वर्ष होने के कारण टीकाकरण के लिए पात्र नहीं है।

ग्रामीण हिस्सों में फैल रहा ओमिक्रॉन

राज्य प्रशासन इस बात से चिंतित है कि नया संक्रमण महाराष्ट्र के ग्रामीण हिस्सों में पाया गया है, न कि केवल शहरी क्षेत्रों में। मुंबई, ठाणे, पालघर, नागपुर, पुणे, लातूर, बुलढाना और उस्मानाबाद समेत महाराष्ट्र के 36 में से आठ जिलों में अब तक ओमिक्रॉन के मामले पाए गए हैं।

एक स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी ने बताया, "अब तक मामले विदेश यात्रा या उनके करीबी संपर्क वाले व्यक्तियों तक ही सीमित हैं। संक्रमण की पहली लहर भी है। लेकिन जल्द ही यह अन्य श्रेणियों के लोगों में फैल गया। इसी तरह ओमिक्रॉन के तेज़ी से संक्रमण दर को देखते हुए इसके फैलने की उम्मीद है। अब हम जानते हैं कि क्या करना है? हवाई अड्डों पर कड़ी निगरानी और स्क्रीनिंग इस संक्रमण के प्रसार को रोकने में मदद करेगा।"