

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1292
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2024**

FRESH COVID CASES

1292. SHRIMATI SAJDA AHMED:

Will the **Minister of HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- a) the details of the Government's strategy and action plan in response to the surge in fresh COVID-19 cases concerning the reported death toll;
- b) the details on the ongoing or planned vaccination drives targeting the individuals who were initially left out or those who require additional doses for full vaccination coverage;
- c) whether the Government has issued advisory to State Governments regarding the management of the fresh COVID-19, including any measures to be taken to mitigate the impact on public health and safety and if so, the details thereof;
- d) the details of the Government's effort for collaborating with healthcare professionals, organizations and community leaders to ensure an effective and coordinated response in managing the fresh COVID-19; and
- e) the details of the recently reported COVID case and death toll, if any, across the country, State-wise?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE
(PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL)**

(a) to (e): Given the emergence of variants of COVID-19 virus with variable transmissibility and their possible health implications, Union Ministry of Health is following COVID-19 trajectory globally and in the country along with various expert committees. Overall, the trajectory of Covid-19 cases in the country witnessed a slight upsurge last week of November, 2023 which peaked around late December, 2023 and is currently on the decline. As on 6th February, 2024, as reported by States/UTs, a total of 1,508 cases of Covid-19 are active in the country, of which almost 86% are reported to be mild and under home isolation.

To strengthen disease surveillance and monitor disease trends including Covid-19 and its variants, Government of India has strengthened Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), which monitors outbreak prone diseases and institutes requisite public health measures. Similarly, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has established a network of more than 150 Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs) for timely laboratory based confirmation of pathogens.

Funding support has been provided to States/UTs for health system strengthening to meet any exigency due to public health emergencies like pandemics through National Health Mission.

Further, for timely detection of newer mutant variants of SARS-CoV-2 virus, Whole Genomic Sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 is carried out by the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genome Sequencing (INSACOG) network in the country.

The National COVID-19 Vaccination Programme is ongoing and the States/UTs have ensured availability of vaccines based on requirement. . As on 6th February 2024, more than 220.67 crore Covid-19 vaccine doses have been administered across the country resulting in a coverage of more than 97% of the population aged ≥ 12 years with at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine while more than 90% with both doses. Additionally, more than 22.88 crore precaution dose have also been administered to eligible beneficiaries aged ≥ 18 years.

Hon'ble Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare on 12th December, 2023 has written to all Hon'ble Health Ministers of all States seeking their collaboration in maintaining continuous vigil, while ensuring operational readiness of all health facilities and healthcare workforce to meet any exigencies due to COVID-19. Hon'ble Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare in a review meeting held with all States/UTs has also urged all States to ensure dissemination of factually correct information & counter fake news to manage infodemic and mitigate any panic situation in the community.

Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare through series of formal communications as well as virtual meetings, has advised all States/UTs to:

- Enhance Covid-19 surveillance across as per the 'Operational Guidelines for Revised Surveillance Strategy in context of COVID-19' issued by the Ministry.
- Ensure ramping up of RT-PCR based Covid-19 testing.
- Refer adequate number of positive Covid-19 samples to the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) network of laboratories for Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) to ensure timely detection of newer variant of virus.
- Monitor emerging evidences of Covid-19 cases, symptoms & case severity as well as to take stock of available health infrastructure including availability of hospitals beds, ventilators, ICU, medical oxygen, drugs, trained human resource etc. to enable timely and appropriate treatment of Covid-19 cases.

State/UTs wise Covid-19 cases & deaths, as reported by States/UTs (for the period 1st August 2023 - 5th February 2024) is placed at **Annexure**.

State/UTs wise Covid-19 cases & deaths, as reported by States/UTs (for the period 1st August 2023 -05th February 2024)

S. No.	States/UTs	Cases	Deaths
1	A&N Islands	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	363	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
4	Assam	66	1
5	Bihar	115	1
6	Chandigarh	16	0
7	Chhattisgarh	469	4
8	Dadar and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	0	0
9	Delhi	603	5
10	Goa	253	0
11	Gujarat	564	5
12	Haryana	182	25*
13	Himachal Pradesh	108	5
14	J&K (UT)	93	1
15	Jharkhand	34	3
16	Karnataka	6700	39
17	Kerala	10411	156*
18	Ladakh	33	0
19	Lakshadweep	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	307	0
21	Maharashtra	5184	29
22	Manipur	5	0
23	Meghalaya	26	0
24	Mizoram	9	0
25	Nagaland	1	0
26	Odisha	214	0
27	Puducherry	131	1
28	Punjab	87	1,234*
29	Rajasthan	194	1
30	Sikkim	59	1
31	Tamil Nadu	911	5
32	Telangana	357	0
33	Tripura	133	2
34	Uttar Pradesh	190	13
35	Uttarakhand	37	0
36	West Bengal	1549	6

*Include the reconciled (old) COVID-19 deaths, as reported by Haryana (23), Kerala (93) and Punjab (1,230)