

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

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 98*
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28th JULY, 2026**

COVID CASES IN ANDHRA PRADESH

***98 SHRI GOLLA BABURAO:**

Will the **MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that COVID cases are being reported from Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether Government is also aware that two persons in Kadapa district have died due to COVID on 8th July, 2026; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action Government has taken in coordination with the State Government?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)**

- (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 98* FOR 28th JULY, 2026**

(a) & (b) : As reported by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, 12 cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the State from 24th June to 16th July 2026. As regards YSR Kadapa district, deaths of three patients have been reported who also had co-morbidities related to conditions such as Diabetes, Hypertension, chronic kidney disease and chronic alcoholism.

(c) : Health is a State subject. The Ministry provides requisite technical and financial support to States/UTs for strengthening their public health preparedness and response capacities against outbreak of epidemic prone communicable diseases including COVID-19.

The Ministry continues to closely monitor and carry out surveillance of Influenza Like Illness/ Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (ILI/SARI), including cases of COVID-19 in the country through Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme - Integrated Health Information Platform (IDSP-IHIP). Events of increasing trends of such diseases are investigated by Rapid Response Teams (RRT).

In addition, the network of Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs) under Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) undertakes a laboratory based surveillance for major respiratory pathogens, including SARS-CoV-2 to monitor the laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 along with other respiratory pathogens.

Further, as per the genomic sequencing carried out by National Institute of Virology, Pune, the COVID-19 positive samples from Kadapa district predominantly showed circulation of RF.5. This sub-lineage of Omicron variant of SARS-COV-2 is not classified by World Health Organization (WHO) as a Variant of Concern (VOC), Variant of Interest (VOI), or Variant under Monitoring (VUM).

In view of the Influenza season, all States/UTs have been urged to expand ILI/SARI surveillance, ensure preparedness in terms of diagnostics and personal protective equipment, undertake hospital surge planning and capacity building of clinical and laboratory personnel through regular review meetings.
