

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1007  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2022**

**“CASES OF BA.4 AND BA.5 SUBVARIANTS OF OMICRON”**

**†1007. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:  
SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU:**

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

- a) Whether the cases of BA.4 and BA.5 sub-variants of omicron have been detected in the country;
- b) If so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- c) Whether these sub-variants are associated with disease severity which has increased hospitalization;
- d) If so, the details thereof; and
- e) Steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent the spread of BA.4 and BA.5 sub-variants of omicron and similar other sub-variants in the country?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE  
(DR BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (e): Cases of BA.4 and BA.5 sub-variants of omicron has been detected in India. As on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2022, a total of 68 cases of BA.4 and 331 cases of BA.5 has been detected in the country.

State/UT wise distribution of cases of BA.4 and BA.5 sub-variants of Omicron is at **Annexure I** and **Annexure II** respectively.

According to World Health Organization, there is no evidence to indicate any change in disease severity with BA.4, BA.5 compared to previous sub-lineages of Omicron variant.

Given the emergence of variants of COVID-19 virus with variable transmissibility and other public health implications, Union Ministry of Health is following COVID-19 trajectory globally and in the country along with various Expert Committees. In addition, INSACOG network laboratories are conducting whole genome sequencing of samples for detection of mutant variants of the virus.

Union Ministry of Health has urged all States/UTs to maintain focus on fivefold strategy of test-track-treat- COVID-19 vaccination and Adherence to COVID-19 Appropriate Behavior to prevent the spread of omicron and similar other sub-variants.

Union Ministry of Health provides requisite support to States/UTs to enhance preparedness and response capacities against COVID-19. Funding support has been provided to States/UTs for health system strengthening to meet any exigency due to resurgence of cases in the country through National Health Mission, State Disaster Response Funds (SDRF), Emergency COVID-19 Response and Preparedness packages and PM - Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission.

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**Annexure I**

**State/UT wise distribution of cases of BA.4 sub-variants of Omicron detected amongst the samples received in INSACOG network (as on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2022)**

| <b>S. No.</b> | <b>State/UT</b> | <b>No. of BA.4 cases</b> |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 1             | Andhra Pradesh  | 1                        |
| 2             | Bihar           | 1                        |
| 3             | Delhi           | 5                        |
| 4             | Gujarat         | 2                        |
| 5             | Maharashtra     | 13                       |
| 6             | Odisha          | 1                        |
| 7             | Tamil Nadu      | 18                       |
| 8             | Telangana       | 20                       |
| 9             | West Bengal     | 7                        |
| <b>Total</b>  |                 | <b>68</b>                |

**Annexure II**

**State/UT wise distribution of cases of BA.5 sub-variants of Omicron detected amongst the samples received in INSACOG network (as on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2022)**

| <b>S. No.</b> | <b>State/UT</b> | <b>No. of BA.5 cases</b> |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 1             | Andhra Pradesh  | 18                       |
| 2             | Bihar           | 1                        |
| 3             | Delhi           | 22                       |
| 4             | Gujarat         | 15                       |
| 5             | Haryana         | 10                       |
| 6             | Kerala          | 1                        |
| 7             | Ladakh          | 1                        |
| 8             | Madhya Pradesh  | 1                        |
| 9             | Maharashtra     | 36                       |
| 10            | Meghalaya       | 2                        |
| 11            | Tamil Nadu      | 150                      |
| 12            | Telangana       | 28                       |
| 13            | Uttar Pradesh   | 1                        |
| 14            | West Bengal     | 45                       |
| <b>Total</b>  |                 | <b>331</b>               |