

MP steps up surveillance at borders as Omicron cases found in adjoining states

Updated: 06 Dec 2021, 03:14 PM IST

Amid mounting concerns over increasing cases of the Omicron variant of Covid-19 detected in the neighbouring states, Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra said on Monday that MP government has increased the watch at the state's borders and is taking various precautionary measures.

Madhya Pradesh shares its border with five states, and the Omicron variant of Covid-19 has been detected in three of them - Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Gujarat. So far, there has been no case of the new Covid-19 variant in MP.

Mishra also said 17 new Covid-19 cases have been found in MP during the past 24 hours, including six in Indore and eight in the state capital Bhopal.

"Following cases of Omicron in neighbouring states, we are increasing the watch at Madhya Pradesh borders and taking precautions with utmost concern," said Mishra, who is the state government's spokesman.

He appealed to the people to be careful, and said the MP government was making efforts to prevent the third wave of Covid-19 in the state.

"All necessary steps have been taken, resources are arranged and all the requirements will be fulfilled to prevent the third wave. The state has more than required medical oxygen and an adequate number of plants of the life-saving gas have been started," the minister said. There is adequate availability of hospital beds, Intensive Care Units (ICUs) and medicines like Remdesivir, he said. As on Sunday evening, the overall Covid-19 tally in Madhya Pradesh stood at 7,93,241, including 7,82,580 recoveries and 10,528 fatalities, according to health officials. The number of Covid-19 vaccine doses administered in the state crossed the nine crore-mark on Sunday evening. A total of 9,01,28,038 vaccine doses have been administered in the state so far, including 1,43,734 on Sunday, officials said. The state has an eligible population of 5.59 crore for taking the Covid-19 vaccine.