

'THERE IS TRANSMISSION IN COMMUNITY' Contact tracing done for immediate contacts only: Jain

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

TRACING CONTACTS of Covid patients has taken hit in the city as the number of cases has risen over the past three weeks. According to Delhi Health Minister Satyendra Jain, contact tracing is now being done only for immediate contacts of patients.



Jain also said the virus was 'here to stay for the next two-three years'.

'Earlier, in one case, contact tracing would be done for up to 600 people, and today, if we mention 1,500 cases with 600, it gives us 9,00,000 people for contact tracing. So, tracing is being done only for immediate contacts and not for indirect contacts.'

Earlier, tracing was done till the last person possible and would easily run into hundreds of calls. It was almost like an investigation. In some cases, CCTV footage was accessed to see if the patient was hiding any information. With over 1,000 cases emerging every day, it is impossible to do that almost like an investigation, said the source.

Jain had said on Tuesday that all of the cases that are emerging now, the government was unaware about the source of infection in half.

The minister also said Wednesday that there was transmission in the community. 'There is transmission in the community, but if it is community transmission or not that can be declared by the Centre only. It is a technical term...'

community, but if it is community transmission or not that can be declared by the Centre only. It is a technical term... The WHO had declared that the pandemic may not have by May 16, which has not happened. It still exists, and we have to take all steps and precautions to deal with it. Even active contacts of the cases are around 30,000-40,000,' he said.

Sources said several discussions regarding the possibility of allowing lockdown in the city has been discussed.

Jain, however, said it will not have any effect.

'When the lockdown was imposed, there were 100 cases across the country, and now that number has gone up to thousands. If we impose lockdown again, there will be no logic, as cases will increase from around 2.5 lakh to 25 lakh despite the lockdown. We have learned from the lockdown, there were different perceptions regarding the lockdown. Some believed that the virus will be over in a month or two, and some believed that the virus will be over as and when temperature rises, but it did not happen. We have to learn to live with the virus, and it is here to stay till the next two-three years,' said Jain.

Family says man died on stretcher waiting for bed, Lok Nayak denies

JIGNASA SINHA NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

THE FAMILY of a 50-year-old Covid patient has alleged he died on a stretcher outside Lok Nayak Hospital waiting for treatment — a claim denied by the hospital administration.



Intiaz Ashraf Ali (50)

According to Azam (34), his brother Intiaz Ashraf Ali, for over three hours on Wednesday afternoon, lay in the sun outside the hospital even as Azam tried to get him a bed inside. Ali had tested positive for Covid-19 and was referred to Lok Nayak from Deen Dayal Upadhyay (DDU) Hospital.

As the anxious family waited, Azam said Ali's condition continued to deteriorate. At 3:30 pm, he stopped moving. Doctors declared him dead and his body was sent to the mortuary.

'We left DDU hospital around 12:30-1 pm. An ambulance dropped Ali outside the hospital gate, on the ground. When we got there soon afterwards, we were shocked. My brother couldn't breathe and was shivering... I was scared, I spoke to the receptionist and some doctors; they told me they have no beds and we'll have to wait,' claimed Azam.

Azam said his brother was eventually placed on a stretcher out in the open, and a doctor came at one point to check up on him and tell the family that a bed will be made available soon. Azam said his brother's condition, meanwhile, continued to worsen. 'My brother finally closed his eyes. It was all over,' he said.

Doctors at Lok Nayak Hospital denied the family's al-

legations. Dr Ritu Saxena, DMS, Lok Nayak Hospital, said Ali died at 4 pm inside the hospital. 'He died during treatment,' she said.

On Thursday, Azam was called by the hospital to collect Ali's body. He leaves behind his wife and two children.

According to Azam, Ali lived in Subhash Nagar with his family and worked at a plastic factory. He had recently resigned work after his employer called him back. But a few days later, he complained of fever. The family took him to a clinic, where the doctor gave him medicines for viral. When Ali's condition worsened, they took him to DDU Hospital.

'We took him to DDU on Sunday after he complained of fever and breathlessness. He was tested and admitted. He had to share the oxygen cylinder with a patient lying nearby,' he alleged.

Doctors at DDU denied the allegation. 'We have plenty of oxygen cylinders. We have a gas pipeline and even a liquid oxygen plant. The patient was shifted when his Covid report came back positive. As DDU is a non-Covid hospital, he had to be shifted to Lok Nayak,' said a senior doctor at the hospital.

HC restrains cops from sharing info on activist

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Wednesday restrained Delhi

anti-CAA Jafarabad sit-in protest in this February.

Police from 'issuing any statements or circulating information regarding allegations and evidence allegedly collected' against Punjab TD activist Devangana Kalita to any person, including the media or on social media.

The plea came for hearing before Justice VJ Ramakrishna, who issued orders to police. Respondent (Delhi Police) is restrained from circulating any such statements or circulating information regarding allegations and evidence allegedly collected against the petitioner or other accused, to any person, including the media or on social media,' the court ordered.

It added, 'The DCP concerned of Crime Branch is directed to file a personal affidavit affirming if any such information... has been circulated by officials of Crime Branch to third persons, journalists or on social media.' The next hearing is on July 9. ENS

Docs at North MCD hospital threaten strike

New Delhi: North MCD hospital doctors have threatened to resign en masse or hold a 'pen down' strike if they are not paid salaries pending for past three months.

Doctors of Kasturba hospital have given a letter to the administration threatening mass resignation from June 16 while Jhanki Rao has already drafted a letter threatening 'pen down' strike which the association will be giving to the administration Friday.

Sources said other hospitals may also join the protest. Mayor Atar Singh said he is trying to arrange funds to pay salaries. North MCD employs 1,000 senior doctors, 500 resident doctors, and 1,500 nursing officers. ENS

All Covid hospitals to make oxygen available for beds

ASTHA SAKENA NEW DELHI, JUNE 10

THE DELHI government Wednesday also asked all Covid-designated hospitals to make oxygen facility available for all beds. If piped oxygen supply is not available, the hospitals have been told to procure oxygen concentrators or cylinders.

The state health department cleared its backlog of previous Covid-19 deaths, adding 79 more deaths. The toll is now 884, taking the fatality rate to almost 3%.

Since June 6, a total of 68 deaths have been declared by hospitals. Meanwhile, 384 people have recovered in the last 24 hours, taking the total number of recovered patients to 12,245.

The recovery rate in the capital is 37.3%. The cumulative number of tests in Delhi reached 2,66,156, with 5,077 tests being performed in the last 24 hours. The city is performing 13,180 tests per million population.

The government Tuesday had also ordered Fortis hospital at Vasant Kunj to treat only Covid patients and ramp up its bed capacity. The hospital, which has 162 beds, has now been told to increase the number to 200 beds.

Earlier, three private hospitals — Sir Ganga Ram, Moolchand

and Saroj Super Speciality Hospital — were converted into Covid-designated facilities. Fortis hospital has its hands full with adding more beds, managing manpower and arranging essential resources. It had earlier reserved only 32 beds for Covid patients.

'The Delhi government order requires Fortis Healthcare to set up and reserve 200 beds for treatment of Covid-19 patients at Fortis Hospital, Vasant Kunj. We are reviewing the manpower, infrastructure and resources available and are making every effort to comply with guidelines,' said a spokesperson from Fortis.

The state government had asked 22 private hospitals to set capital to reserve 20% more beds for Covid-19 patients, expanding bed strength in these hospitals by 2,015. With a total bed capacity of 7,323 beds, these private hospitals had earlier reserved 1,441 beds for Covid patients.

BRIEFLY Mahila court judge tests positive

New Delhi: A Mahila court judge at Saket Court Complex tested positive for Covid on June 9. As per a circular from the Office of District & Sessions Judge of South District, the judge had last visited court on June 3 as duty magistrate. The caretaking bench has been directed to seal and sanitise the judge's courtroom, chamber, Ahlbad room.

At Gurgaon Civil Hospital, 4 flu OPDs operate in the open

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE GURGAON, JUNE 10

TO ENSURE social distancing in their 'flu outpatient departments (OPDs)', Gurgaon Civil Hospital is operating the OPDs in the open, outside the hospital building.

According to officials, the strategy was adopted last month, after it was noticed that the four flu OPDs in the hospital were experiencing a high footfall, creating problems in maintaining social distancing in the rooms allotted for their operations.

Officials say "around 100 to 150 samples" of patients are being collected for coronavirus testing per day at the hospital. "Social distancing is not an issue under normal circumstances, but it became a problem because of the pandemic. We started operating our four flu OPDs in the open just so that we would be able to maintain social distancing, ensure proper ventilation, and minimise the exposure of our doctors to any infection," said Principal Medical Officer (PMO) Sandeep Sinha.



The measure is a bid to ensure social distancing at the hospital

from outside so that our doctors remain safe," she said.

The four OPDs have been set up in different parts of the premises, along with a help desk located near gate number 2. While two are set up under tents, the medicine OPD has been set up in a verandah of the hospital, while the fourth OPD has been set up in the shade of several trees.

Officials said that the space problem will be fixed when a new 500-bed hospital is set up in place of the current Civil Hospital. 'The old building had been declared unsafe and the estimate for demolition had already been sent for approval to higher authorities. Also, the proposal for building a 500-bed hospital is under process. The pandemic that broke out suddenly delayed things, otherwise we would on this would have started by now,' said the PMO.

Advertisement for Hero motorcycles featuring 'THE NEW ERA OF BIKING IS HERE' and 'PRESENTING XSENS'.

STATEMENT OF STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2020. Table with columns for S. No., Particulars, and financial data for Standalone and Consolidated for Q1 2020, Q1 2019, and YTD 2020 vs YTD 2019.

Man beaten up New Delhi: A 40-year-old man was brutally assaulted by a group of men who stop his bike and attack him with sticks in Bhalswa. A video of the incident went viral on social media Wednesday. ENS

Anticipatory bail for journalist New Delhi: A Delhi court granted anticipatory bail to journalist Vinod Dua in connection with an FIR filed on a complaint by BJP spokesperson Naveen Kumar, who accused him of breach of peace, public mischief and creating ill-will over his comments against political parties and leaders.

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors PAWAN MUNIAL Chairman, Managing Director & CEO DIN : 00004223

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