

IJA stresses on Covid protocols in industrial areas

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Lucknow: Apprehensive of complete closure being imposed in UP following sharp surge in cases, the Indian Industries Association is convening a meeting of its 9,300 members for telling them to implement all Covid protocols strictly lest things get out of hand and the government is forced to take action.

IJA president Pankaj Kumar said, "We held a meeting of 200 members recently and discussed what action can we take to ensure Covid cases remain under control in industrial areas."

Restrictions have been imposed in Delhi and the impact of rising cases in the national capital is evident in NCR areas of Noida, Greater Noida, Ghaziabad etc., where there is a greater need for

caution, he said.

"Industries had just started on the road to recovery after the last lockdown. It would be disastrous for us if there is another lockdown. We told our members that there may be another lockdown if they do not take precautions. In the next week or so, we will hold a meeting with all 9,300 IJA members in UP and tell them to take precautions and not depend on

the government," Kumar said.

During the last Covid-19 wave, the government had issued instructions to industries on maintaining physical distancing, compulsory thermal screening of employees, sanitisation of premises and wearing of masks. Many units stopped following the protocols, but now need to restart them vigorously.

"The previous lockdown had caught us all by surprise, but this time we are better prepared and can follow protocols strictly. We will advise our members to have processes in place for ferrying workers, keeping factory and service centre premises sanitised. If there is another lockdown, it will hit us severely, but in case it happens, we would like our members to be prepared," Kumar said.