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Coronavirus heightens global alarm – 24th January, 2020

Level 0

There could be a new virus outbreak. The coronavirus started in China. It has killed 17 people. It went to the USA, Japan, Korea and Thailand. The WHO will decide if it is a global emergency. China asked people not to panic. Millions will travel across China to be with their families for the Chinese New Year.

The coronavirus came from animals in a market. It changed and spread to a human. It could change and spread more. The virus passes to people through the air. A doctor said it is like SARS, but different. It causes fever, cough and breathing problems. A 36-year-old woman from Beijing is afraid because there's no cure.

Level 1

There could be an outbreak of a deadly new virus. The coronavirus started in Wuhan, China. It has killed 17 people and has spread to the USA, Japan, Korea and Thailand. The WHO will decide if the outbreak is a global emergency. China is telling people not to panic. The Chinese New Year is next week. Millions of people will travel across China to be with their families. Wuhan has stopped its public transport systems to help stop the spread of the virus.

The coronavirus may have come from animals in a market. The virus changed and spread to a human. It could change and spread more. The virus is catching. It passes to people through the air. A virologist said the new coronavirus is like SARS, but different. He said it has pneumonia-like symptoms, such as fever, cough and breathing problems. Fu Ning, a 36-year-old woman from Beijing, is fearful because there's no cure for the virus.

Level 2

The world is preparing for a possible outbreak of a deadly new virus. The coronavirus started in the Chinese city of Wuhan. It has killed 17 people. Over 540 people are in hospital. It has spread to the USA, Japan, Korea and Thailand. The World Health Organization is to decide whether the outbreak is a global health emergency. China is telling people not to panic. The Chinese New Year is next week and millions of people will travel across China to spend the holiday with their families. Meanwhile, Wuhan has suspended its public transport systems to help stop the spread of the virus.

The new coronavirus may have come from animals in a Wuhan market. The virus mutated and spread to a human. There are fears it could mutate and spread further. The virus is contagious. It can pass from person to person through the air. Virologist Dr Linfa Wang said the new coronavirus is in the same family as SARS, but it's different from SARS. He said people should look for pneumonia-like symptoms, such as fever, cough and breathing problems. Fu Ning, a 36-year-old woman from Beijing, said: "I feel fearful because there's no cure for the virus."

Level 3

Nations around the world are preparing for a possible major outbreak of a new deadly virus. The coronavirus, which started in the Chinese city of Wuhan, has already killed 17 people. It has spread to the USA, Japan, Korea and Thailand. More than 540 people have caught the virus and are in hospital. The World Health Organization (WHO) is meeting to decide whether the outbreak is a global health emergency. China is urging people not to panic ahead of the Chinese New Year next week. Millions of Chinese will be travelling across the country to spend the holiday season with their families. Meanwhile, the city of Wuhan has suspended its public transport systems to help stop the spread of the virus.

The new coronavirus is suspected to have come from illegally traded animals in a Wuhan market. The virus mutated and spread from an animal to a human. There are fears it could mutate and spread further. Scientists say the virus is contagious and can be passed from person to person through the air. Dr Linfa Wang, a virologist at the Duke-National University of Singapore, said the new coronavirus is in the same family as SARS, but it's different from SARS. He said people needed to look for pneumonia-like symptoms, such as fever, cough and difficulty breathing. Fu Ning, a 36-year-old woman from Beijing, said: "I feel fearful because there's no cure for the virus."