

No new MERS cases in South Korea

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Seoul: No new cases of the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) were reported in South Korea on Monday for the second consecutive day.

So far, 182 people have been infected with the MERS virus, with fatalities remaining at 32, Channel News Asia reported.

The outbreak started on May 20 when a 68-year-old man was diagnosed after returning from a trip to Saudi Arabia.

Since then the potentially-deadly virus -- for which there is no vaccine -- has spread at an unusually rapid pace in the Asia's fourth-largest economy, becoming the largest outbreak outside Saudi Arabia and sparking public alarm at home and elsewhere in Asia.

South Korea's government is facing criticism for failing to stop the outbreak.

The number of those quarantined rose from 2,562 on Sunday to 2,682 on Monday.

- IANS