

China to ease Covid curbs further

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Dhaka: China is ready to announce a further easing of some of the world's toughest Covid curbs as early as December 7, reports said.

Three years into the pandemic, China's zero-tolerance measures, from shut borders to frequent lockdowns, contrast sharply with the rest of the world, which has largely decided to live with the virus.

The strict approach has battered the world's second-largest economy, put mental strain on hundreds of millions and last month prompted the biggest show of public discontent in mainland China since President Xi Jinping took power in 2012.

The financial hub of Shanghai announced on December 5 that it would remove Covid testing requirements for people to enter most public places from December 6.

Also a new set of nationwide rules is due to be announced soon, said reports, paving the way for more coordinated easing.

Beijing is also weighing whether to scale down its management of the virus to reflect the less serious threat it poses as early as January.

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