

AV-29017/14/2020-DT
Government of India
Ministry of Civil Aviation

B Block, Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan,
New Delhi, Dated 10.05.2022

ORDER

Subject: Review of COVID-19 guidelines for Domestic & International flight operations-reg.

Since the lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 and subsequent reopening of skies, Ministry of Civil Aviation, from time to time issued guidelines / SOPs for operators, passengers and other stakeholders to ensure smooth conduct of air operations, safety and hygiene of the travelling passengers with a view to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection during air travel. These guidelines have been modified and relaxed periodically as per the severity of pandemic. Other regulatory bodies like Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), etc. have also issued guidelines for the stakeholders within their respective domain.

2. In view of the overall improvement of the situation and preparedness of the Government to deal with the pandemic, Ministry of Home Affairs by way of its communication issued vide D.O. No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 22.03.2022 have, inter-alia, indicated that there may not be any further need to invoke the provisions of the Disaster Management (DM) Act for COVID containment measures. Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) had also on 21.03.2022 reviewed the COVID-19 guidelines for international operations under Order No. AV.29017/14/2020-DT. A need has, therefore, been felt for consolidating the instructions issued from time to time and a set of revised instructions to be followed by passengers, airport operators and airlines, have been formulated and are **Annexed**. This will supersede the instructions issued in the past.

3. However, the Guidelines / SOPs / Advisories issued by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) with regards to implementation of measures for containment of pandemic including wearing masks and hand hygiene and the Orders / Guidelines issued by regulatory bodies like DGCA, BCAS etc. would continue to apply and guide overall national response to the pandemic. In addition, it is also advised that in view of the nature of the COVID-19 Virus, all stakeholders must remain watchful of the situation and take proactive and prompt action, whenever needed. Airports and Airlines should continue to enforce wearing of the mask by passengers at Airports and on board. Further, the extant guidelines of MoHFW on submission of complete and

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factual information in self-declaration form on the online Air Suvidha portal shall continue to be followed.

4. The above decision would come into immediate effect until further order. This will be reviewed, if needed, as per the prevailing situation.

5. This has the approval of the Competent Authority.


(Usha Padhee) 10/5/22

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India

To,

- i. Secretary, Civil Aviation, Government of India.
- ii. Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
- iii. Directorate General of Civil Aviation [Kind Attn: Shri Arun Kumar, DG] –with a request to bring the contents of the Order to the notice of all concerned.
- iv. Director General, BCAS
- v. Shri S.K. Mishra, Joint Secretary, Agreement Section
- vi. PS to HMCA
- vii. PS to HMoSCA
- viii. All Indian Airport Operators & Domestic scheduled airlines for necessary action.

Annexure to Para No.2 of MoCA Order dated 28.05.2022

General Instructions for domestic and international air travel

For air passengers

1. Passengers, before entering the Terminal, to ensure wearing of Face Mask as per prevailing requirement. He/She will continue to wear the mask throughout the journey.
2. During arrival and departure at the airport terminal as well as in the aircraft, hygiene and sanitation to be maintained by passengers.

For Airlines

1. The Airline operator shall make necessary arrangements to ensure that the risk of transmission of COVID-19 virus is minimized. Passengers may be sensitized on the precautionary measures to be taken by them through their websites, travel agents, call centers, display at airports, assistance booths at the airports, etc.
2. The Airline shall make regular announcements for awareness among the passengers on the need to follow COVID-19 appropriate behavior such as hand hygiene, wearing mask, etc.
3. The Airline shall make arrangement of extra Face Mask and provide to the passengers, if required.

For Airport Operators

1. The Airport operators shall make necessary arrangements to ensure that the risk of transmission of COVID-19 virus is minimized. The Airport operators shall take adequate sanitization measures at Airports. The Airport operator shall ensure co-ordination among the other service providers such as the airline, security agencies, ground handling agencies, etc for ensuring COVID appropriate behavior at the Airports.
2. Prominently display the precautionary measures that need to be taken by all the staff, crew, security personnel and passengers and make continuous announcement to sensitize them.
3. Keep Hand Sanitizer/ dispensers at prominent places at the Airports.


10/5/22