

Guidelines for International Arrivals at Airports

This has reference to circular dated 17th February 2021 from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) regarding new guidelines, on action to be taken at Airports to minimize risk of importation of mutant strains of SARS-CoV-2. The new guidelines have come in effect from 22nd February 2021 (23.59 Hrs IST)

– Part A –

For All International Travelers

(except those coming through flights originating from United Kingdom, Europe and Middle East.)

DEPARTURE AIRPORT:

- **All international arriving passengers must upload RT-PCR negative certificate while filling the Self Declaration Form (SDF).** This test should have been conducted within 72 hrs prior to undertaking the journey. Each passenger shall also submit a declaration with respect to authenticity of the report and will be liable for criminal prosecution, if found otherwise.
- **International Arriving Passengers can only apply for exemption**, in case of '**Death in a Family**'. It is mandatory for all international arriving passengers to upload negative RT-PCR certificate while filling the Self Declaration Form. If they wish to seek such exemption they shall apply to the online portal (www.newdelhiairport.in) at least 72 hours before boarding. The decision taken by the government as communicated on the online portal will be final.
- Do's and Don'ts shall be provided along with ticket to the travellers by Air India / Travel Partners.
- Only those passengers who have filled in the **Self Declaration Form** on the **Air Suvidha portal** and uploaded the negative RT-PCR test report will be allowed to Board.
- Only asymptomatic travellers will be allowed to board after thermal screening.
- All passengers shall be advised to download Aarogya Setu app on their mobile devices.
- During boarding, all possible physical distancing shall be ensured.
- Suitable announcement about COVID-19 including precautionary measures shall be made in flight.
- While on board the flight, required precautions such as wearing of masks, environmental hygiene, respiratory hygiene, hand hygiene etc. are to be observed by airline staff, crew and all passengers.

ARRIVAL AIRPORT:

- Deboarding should be done ensuring physical distancing.
- The passengers who have been exempted for pre-arrival RT-PCR testing (as approved and indicated on the online portal in advance) will show the same to the respective State counters. All other passengers who have uploaded RT-PCR negative certificates on Air

Suvidha portal shall be allowed to leave the airport/ take transit flights and will be required to undertake self monitoring of their health for 14 days.

– Part B –

For all international travellers coming / transiting through flights originating from United Kingdom, Europe and Middle East

All conditions as in Part A shall be applicable to such passengers except for conditions on testing, quarantine and isolation as specified below.

DEPARTURE AIRPORT:

- All passengers departing from **United Kingdom, Europe and Middle East** must submit **Self-Declaration Form (SDF)** for COVID on the online Air Suvidha portal(www.newdelhiaairport.in) before the scheduled travel and will be required to declare their travel history (of past 14 days). All the passengers departing from United Kingdom, Europe and Middle East shall carry a negative RT-PCR Test report for which test should have been conducted within 72 hours prior to undertaking the journey. The same also shall be uploaded on the online portal (www.newdelhiaairport.in). **Passengers arriving from United Kingdom, Europe and Middle East will have to also undergo self-paid RT PCR test on arrival at the first port of entry.**
- All the travelers arriving from/transiting through flights originating in United Kingdom, Europe or Middle East shall be mandatorily subjected to self-paid confirmatory molecular tests on arrival at the Indian airports concerned (port of entry). Entry made in the SDF regarding telephone number and address would be reconfirmed.
- **Must ensure prior to check-in;**
 - a) Passenger is informed of self paid confirmatory molecular tests at the arrival port of entry.*
 - b) Reconfirm with passenger regarding telephone number and address submitted in SDF.*
- Prepare & forward a separate list / manifest of pax joining / transiting from UK, Brazil and South Africa and/or of having a travel history during past 14 days, to the arrival airport.
- Based on whether the passenger is disembarking at the arrival airport or taking further flights to reach their final destination, **the Self Declaration Form receipt will accordingly display 'T' for passengers in Transit.**
- Keeping in mind the testing requirements for passengers from UK, Brazil and South Africa upon arrival , pax who have to take onward connecting flights, will require a minimum 6-8 hours at the entry airport (in India), for connecting flights.
- Only those passengers who have filled in the SDF on the Air Suvidha portal and uploaded the negative RT-PCR test report shall be allowed to board.
- In-flight announcements must be made explaining the relevant information to the passenger.

ARRIVAL AIRPORT:

- Identify & Segregate the pax transiting / joining from UK, Brazil and South Africa (of having a travel history during past 14 days) to the Government Authorities.
- Submit the separate list / manifest of pax transiting / joining from UK, Brazil and South Africa to the Government Authorities.
- In case, pax arriving from United Kingdom, South Africa or Brazil tests positive (either at the arrival airport or subsequently during home quarantine) seat numbers of the co-passengers seated in the same row, 3 rows in front and 3 rows behind along with identified Cabin Crew need to be identified and intimated to the relevant government authorities.

Passengers from UK, Brazil and South Africa taking connecting flights from the arrival International Airport ('T' in Self Declaration Form)

- Passengers arriving from / transiting through United Kingdom, Brazil and South Africa (during past 14 days) should be segregated while disembarking to facilitate the authorities to follow the due protocol in respect of these travelers.
- Passengers from UK, Brazil and South Africa taking connecting flights from the arrival international airport ('T' in their SDF) shall give sample at designated area and exit airport **ONLY AFTER** confirmation of negative test report which may take 6-8 hours.
- Transit travelers from UK, Brazil and South Africa who are found negative on testing at the airport shall be allowed to take their connecting flights.

Passengers from UK, Brazil and South Africa exiting at the arrival Airport:

- Will give their sample in the designated area and exit the airport. They will be followed up by the State Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP).

Passengers from Europe and Middle East (other than those in flights originating from Brazil, South Africa and United Kingdom) who have to exit the destination airport or take connecting flights to their final domestic destination.

- Shall give samples at the designated area and exit the airport. The concerned State authorities / airport operators will collect and convey the test report to the passenger.

International Travelers on short stay

International travellers (covered under Part A or Part B) on short stay (less than 14 days) and who have tested negative and remain symptom free, shall undergo all the procedures as above and shall be permitted to leave India under proper intimation to their District / State health authorities, subject to them fulfilling the requirement of the airlines and destination country.

Travelers through flights originating from United Kingdom, Europe and Middle East were additionally mandated to be tested on arrival in India through RT-PCR test.

.In view of reporting of new mutations in SARS-CoV-2 and rising incidence of Variants of Concern (VoCs) and Variants of Interest (Vols), it has been decided to include the following countries in the scope of part B (in addition to the countries already mentioned in the said Part B) of MoHFW's Guidelines on International Arrival:

- a. South Africa
- b. Bangladesh
- c. Botswana,
- d. China,
- e. Mauritius,
- f. New Zealand,
- g. Zimbabwe

The amended guidelines for above countries shall come into effect from 00.00 Hrs (IST) of 3rd September 2021.