

Dated the 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2023

**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**

**Guidelines for International Arrivals**  
**(in supersession of guidelines issued on the subject on 29<sup>th</sup> December 2022)**

**Introduction**

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has issued 'Guidelines for International Arrivals' in context of COVID-19 pandemic and updated the same from time to time. The present guidelines are being revised in light of declining trajectory of COVID-19 cases globally.

**Scope**

This document provides protocols to be complied by international travellers as well as points of entry (airports, seaports and land border) and shall be valid w.e.f. 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 (11.00 Hrs IST) till further orders.

**A.1. Planning for Travel**

i. All travellers should preferably be fully vaccinated as per the approved primary schedule of vaccination against COVID-19 in their Country.

**A.2. During Travel**

ii. In-flight announcement about the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic including precautionary measures to be followed (preferable use of masks and following physical distancing) shall be made in flights/travel and at all points of entry.

iii. Any passenger having symptoms of COVID-19 during travel shall be isolated as per standard protocol i.e. the said passenger should be wearing mask, isolated and segregated from other passengers in flight/travel and shifted to an isolation facility subsequently for follow up treatment.

**A.3. On arrival**

iv. De-boarding should be done ensuring physical distancing.

v. Thermal screening should be done in respect of all the passengers by the health officials present at the point of entry.

vi. The passengers found to be symptomatic during screening shall be immediately isolated, taken to a designated medical facility as per health protocol (as above).

vii. The following protocol post arrival shall also be followed:

a) A sub-section (2% of the total passengers\* in the flight) shall undergo random post arrival testing at the airport on arrival.

b) Such travellers in each flight shall be identified by the concerned airlines (preferably from different countries). They will submit the samples and shall be allowed to leave the airport thereafter.

c) If such travellers' samples are tested positive, their samples should be further sent for genomic testing at INSACOG laboratory network.

d) They shall be treated/isolated as per laid down standard protocol.

viii. All travellers should self-monitor their health post arrival also shall report to their nearest health facility or call National helpline number (1075)/ State Helpline Number in case they have any symptoms suggestive.

\* Children under 12 years of age are exempted from post-arrival random testing. However, if found symptomatic for COVID-19 on arrival or during the period of self-monitoring period, they shall undergo testing and treated as per laid down protocol.

**AV-29017/5/2020-DT**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Civil Aviation**  
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B Block, Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan,  
New Delhi, Dated 10.02.2023

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**Subject: Review of COVID-19 Guidelines for International Flight Operations/arrivals-reg.**

Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) vide even reference O.M. dated 30.12.2022 had issued guidelines for International flight operations/arrivals based on the increasing trajectory of COVID-19 and circulation of mutant variants of SARS-CoV-2 virus in some Countries. The guidelines had mandated requirements of pre-departure COVID-19 testing for passengers in all International Flights from/via China, Singapore, Hong Kong, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Japan and uploading of Self-Health Declaration on Ministry of Civil Aviation's 'Air Suvidha' Portal travelling from these countries.

2. Now, as these Countries have witnessed a sustained and significant decline in trajectory of COVID-19 cases in the last 04 weeks, it has been decided that the existing guidelines for international arrivals needs to be revised and updated. The revised guidelines are as under:

a. Dropping the existing requirements of pre-departure COVID-19 testing and uploading of Self-Health Declaration on Ministry of Civil Aviation's 'Air Suvidha' portal applicable for international travellers coming from/via China, Singapore, Hong Kong, Republic of Korea, Thailand and Japan.

b. In order to monitor infections due to mutated variants of SARS-CoV-2 among international travellers to India, the present exercise of random testing of 2% travellers to India (irrespective of Country of origin) upon arrival in India shall continue.

3. This arrangement shall come into practice with effect from 11:00 AM on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2023.

4. The revised Guidelines for International Arrivals of MoH&FW dated 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 is enclosed for reference.

5. This has the approval of the Competent Authority.



**(Mritunjaya Sharma)**  
Director

Tel. No. 011-24653750

**Encl. As above**

To,

**Director General, DGCA-** with the request to bring the contents of this OM to the knowledge of all concerned.

Copy to:

- i. Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation
- ii. PS to HMCA, Civil Aviation
- iii. OSD to HMoS, Civil Aviation
- iv. Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- v. Secretaries of Other Ministries/Departments of Govt. of India
- vi. DG, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security
- vii. Chairman, Airports Authority of India, Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, New Delhi
- viii. Chief Secretaries/Administrators of States/Union Territories
- ix. All Scheduled Commercial Airlines
- x. CEO of BIAL / CIAL / DIAL / HIAL / MIAL and other International Airports, to ensure compliance to this order.