

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

March 9, 2020

Coronavirus Update - 8

As two more positive cases of coronavirus were reported in India today, the total number of COVID-19 patients has gone up to 41. The Health Ministry has made 52 laboratories functional for testing samples while 57 labs have been designated for helping in sample collection to enhance the capacity for diagnosis and detection of the virus.

The Government has made it mandatory for people entering India to be screened at all ports of entry. Everyone is required to provide a self-declaration form and their travel history to health and immigration officials at all ports. As per the travel advisory issued by the Government, people showing symptoms may be quarantined for 14 days on arrival to India.

The Foreigner Regional Registration Offices have been advised to facilitate extension of Visa for tourists from identified countries, currently in India and not being able to leave India due to discontinuation of flights.

Keeping in mind the current scenario, airline carriers; IndiGo, GoAir and SpiceJet have decided to waive-off change fees for all existing and new domestic and international bookings made till March 31, 2020 for travel between 12 – 31 March, 2020.

The Central Government has decided that no cruise ship from any foreign destination will be allowed to call on Indian ports till 31 March, 2020.

After Sikkim closed its borders last week, Arunachal Pradesh has also decided to temporarily stop issuing Protected Area Permits (PAPs) to foreigners in an attempt to prevent the epidemic from reaching its borders. PAPs are issued to foreigners to enter the state that borders China.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has asked citizens to avoid mass gatherings in wake of the coronavirus due to which several Holi celebrations across the country are being cancelled. Several hotels which hosted Holi celebration events have also cancelled it this year.

We assure you of our continued support and your relationship managers remain available 24x7 to take your calls and assist you as required.

For the latest travel advisory updates issued by the Government of India you may visit: https://boi.gov.in/content/advisory-travel-and-visa-restrictions-related-covid-19.



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