

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

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Coronavirus: Destination Updates

The coronavirus case count in India now stands at 23,96,637 cases with 16,95,982 (70.77%) recoveries according to latest health ministry figures. 47,033 (1.96%) people have died due to the virus.

As coronavirus cases surge in the region, the tourism industry continues to face prolonged disruptions. Sri Lanka's ruling party won landslide victory in general elections last week.

INDIA

India has recorded its worst spike of near 67,066 coronavirus cases in the last 24 hours, taking its total to over 2.3 million. India also conducted highest ever single-day tests at 7,33,449 in the last 24 hours. India achieved another highpoint in its fight against Covid-19 with the highest single-day recoveries of 56,110 patients in the last 24 hours, as per statement released by the Ministry of Health. With more patients recovering and being discharged from hospitals and home isolation (in case of mild and moderate cases), the total recoveries have crossed the 1.6 million mark. The recovery rate has reached another high of 70 per cent.

Five most affected states by total tally of cases are Maharashtra (548,313), Tamil Nadu (314,520), Andhra Pradesh (250,000), Karnataka (182,354), and Delhi (147,391). The Coronavirus tally in West Bengal has crossed the 100,000-mark with 2,931 new infections.

International travel continues to remain banned in the third phase of "Unlock 3.0", however, the Indian government has eased visa restrictions for international travelers under its "air bubble" scheme. The government has allowed all Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card holders and other foreigners of countries which have "air bubble" agreements to enter India. As per the announcement, OCI holders from the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom and France would be allowed to visit the country. Furthermore, foreign nationals can now avail Indian visa facility for business, medical & employment purposes in the country. Indian embassies of these countries will grant an appropriate visa. With these ease of restriction, Indian passport holders will also be allowed to travel to these countries on any kind of visa that they hold, as per the guideline.

Air Canada will be flying thrice a week between Delhi and Toronto from August 15. The flights will operate non-stop between the two cities on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays, till August 30. As per the directives, Canadian citizens, PR, students, work permit holders and Indian passport holders on visitor visas are eligible to travel subject to the guidelines and eligibility laid down by the governments.

For the latest national updates you may visit <https://www.mygov.in/covid-19/>