

INDIA

India has welcomed its first snowfall of 2022 last week. The hill states in the Himalayan region received fresh snowfall making the visitors cheerful. Shimla, one of the most-loved hill stations in India, has turned into pearl white resulting in a rise in the number of domestic tourists.

In the wake of a surge in the COVID-19 cases, including the contagious Omicron variant, the Government of India began administering third precautionary doses of vaccines to healthcare, frontline workers and senior citizens with co-morbidities starting 10th January. More than four million people have received their third jab till now.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, has released the new international arrival guidelines w.e.f. 11th January 2022.

Here are the key points from the Guidelines:

- i. All travellers are requested to upload a negative COVID-19 RTPCR report conducted within 72 hours on the Air Suidha portal and submit travel details of the last 14 days before the journey.
- ii. Each passenger must submit a declaration concerning the report's authenticity.
- iii. Mandatory seven-day home quarantine for all travellers on arrival and shall undertake RT-PCR test on the 8th day of arrival in India
- iv. Continuing with the earlier approach, travellers from certain countries would need to follow additional measures on arrival in India, including post-arrival testing ([Countries at-risk](#)).
- v. A random sample of 2% of travellers arriving from 'not at risk' countries would undergo RT-PCR testing on arrival.

Please [click here](#) for the updated algorithm based on the revised [Guidelines for International Arrival](#) issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India on 07th January.

With the administration of over 8 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine in the last 24 hours, India's vaccination coverage has reached over 1.58 billion. There is a robust approach of the Indian Government to vaccination with more than 90% of the country's adult population being covered with at least one dose and over 62% of the adult population with both doses.

Indian flagship carrier Air India has started operating additional flights between India and Australia under the air bubble agreement to further enhance the relations between the two countries.

For detailed and latest updates on vaccination and cases, please [click here](#).