

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
HEALTH MEDICAL & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

Order No.89/COVID-19/2020.

Date:22.12.2020

**COVID Instant Order- 89**

Sub: HMFWD – COVID-19 – detection of new variant of SARSs-Cov-2 in UK-certain guidelines to screen and manage travelers from international arrivals - Orders – Issued

Ref: D O No. Z-21020/16/2020-PH Guidelines for International arrivals, MoHFW, GOI, dated: 21.12.2020

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Government of India has indicated that a new variant of SARSs-Cov-2 is reported and it is spreading & growing rapidly in United Kingdom. It has also been reported that this variant has an unusually large number of genetic changes particularly in the spike protein. This development calls for enhanced epidemiological surveillance, enhanced containment & other measures to effectively tackle the challenge. Further, GOI has stated that any interjection of a SARS-CoV-2 variant virus through passengers with air travel history could pose critical risks for pandemic management in India.

Accordingly, these revised guidelines for international passengers are being issued as per the Guidelines issued by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi.

**1. Immediate steps**

- a) As a measure of abundant caution, passengers arriving from U.K in all international flights (flights in transit) should be subjected to mandatory RT PCR tests on arrival at all airports and in AP and also from Airports in the neighboring states.
- b) District Collectors are requested to coordinate with the airport authorities in their jurisdiction to urgently set up adequate number of help desks and district administration should deploy adequate number of Medical and Para medical staff with adequate number of RTPCT test kits, PPEs and other requirements at the airports to facilitate this exercise.
- c) District Collectors are also requested to make adequate arrangements for passengers waiting for their RT PCR test results at the airports in conjunction with the airport authorities.
- d) District collectors of Nellore, Ananthapur, Krishna and Guntur should arrange help desks at international airports in the neighboring states.
- e) Those who are found positive on arrival must be sent to covid hospitals or paid institutional quarantine centres to set up by the districts utilizing special ambulances mandated for positive persons transport.
- f) Those who are found negative in RT-PCR tests done at airports should be advised to isolate themselves at home for fourteen days, to be medically monitored by the district surveillance team.
- g) Relevant information in this regard should be prominently displayed in arrival area, waiting area of the airports.

## 2. Surveillance and follow up measures

- a) The surveillance teams should be given a clear mandate and action plan for physical monitoring of all those who have tested negative in the RT-PCR test and are under home isolation. The teams should ensure their proper isolation, monitoring of parameters and ensure follow up RT-PCR test after 14 days of disembarkation.
- b) The field surveillance team consisting of medical officer and ANM should mandatorily visit the international travelers on daily basis and update their vitals in the home quarantine app.
- c) In case any such persons develop symptoms during the fourteen days, they must be shifted to hospitals and tested for RT-PCR immediately.

## 3. Additional guidelines

- a) All international travelers should submit self-declaration form on the online portal <http://health.ap.gov.in> at least 72 hours before the scheduled travel.
- b) They should also give an undertaking on the portal that they would undergo mandatory quarantine for 14 days (paid quarantine at their own cost as the case may be)
- c) On testing negative for RT-PCR test on arrival, only for compelling reasons / cases of human distress such as pregnancy, death in family, serious illness and parents with children of the age of 10 years or below, home quarantine shall be permitted for 14 days.



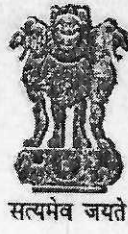
Principal Secretary to Govt.,

To  
All the Collectors & District Magistrates in the State  
All the DM&HOs in the State



राजेश भूषण, आईएएस  
सचिव

**RAJESH BHUSHAN, IAS**  
SECRETARY



भारत सरकार  
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग  
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय  
Government of India  
Department of Health and Family Welfare  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

D.O No. Z-21020/16/2020-PH  
21<sup>st</sup> December 2020

*Dear Colleague,*

It has been reported that a distinct Phylogenetic cluster of SARs-CoV-2 variant has been detected. This SARS-CoV-2 variant is spreading & growing rapidly in United Kingdom. It has also been reported that this variant has an unusually large number of genetic changes particularly in the spike protein. This development calls for enhanced epidemiological surveillance, enhanced containment & other measures to effectively tackle the challenge.

2. As you are aware, India has been seeing a sustained decline in the number of fresh Covid-19 cases for over 2 ½ months now, accompanied by a decline in the number of deaths. In this scenario, any interjection of a SARS-CoV-2 variant virus through passengers with air travel history could pose critical risks for pandemic management in India.

3. In this connection, based on the inputs received from the Joint Monitoring Group (JMG) headed by the Director General of Health Services (DGHS) and the Vaccine Task Force headed by the Principal Scientific Advisor and Member (Health), NITI, the following is proposed:-

**1. Immediate steps**

- (i) As a measure of abundant caution, passengers arriving from U.K in all international flights (flights in transit) should be subjected to mandatory RT PCR tests on arrival at the airports concerned.
  - a. Those who are found positive on arrival must be sent for institutional quarantine/isolation set up by the State/UT Governments, in collaboration with the States/UTs concerned.
  - b. Those who are found negative in RT-PCR tests should be advised to isolate themselves at home for seven days, to be medically monitored by the States/UTs concerned.
  - c. Relevant information in this regard may be prominently displayed in arrival area, waiting area of the airports.

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- (ii) Kindly coordinate with the airport authorities in your jurisdiction to urgently set up adequate number of help desks, manned by State/UT personnel at the airports to facilitate this exercise.
- (iii) Adequate arrangements for passengers waiting for their RT PCR test results may also be made at the airports in conjunction with the airport authorities.

2. **Surveillance and follow up measures**

- (i) The surveillance teams should be given a clear mandate and action plan for physical monitoring of all those who have tested negative in the RT-PCR test and are under home isolation. The teams should ensure their proper isolation, monitoring of parameters and ensure follow up RT-PCR test after 7 days of disembarkation.
- (ii) In case any such persons develop symptoms before seven days, they must be tested immediately.

States may, however, take additional steps as per local requirements.

*Regards .*

Yours sincerely,



(Rajesh Bhushan)

**To :Chief Secretaries/Administrators of all States/UTs**

Copy for information to : Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary,  
Health - All States/UTs