

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF HEALTH SERVICES) PORT HEALTH ORGANISATION, CHENNAI

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-CIRCULAR-

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In continuation to the latest guidelines circulated by MoH&FW, dated 10.02.2022 https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/GuidelinesforInternationalarrivalsupdatedon10thFebruary2022.pdf considering the decrease in the spread of COVID-19 infection worldwide, in India & mild nature of the illness, a risk based approach is taken to allow unhindered movement of people by strictly following the guidelines, COVID Appropriate Behaviour till further notice or revision.

The Indian Nationals have to submit their primary 2 doses of Vaccination completing 14 days from last dose and Booster dose if already taken can be added in declaration, Self-Declaration Form (SDF), Pre-Boarding Form (PBF). They will be screened and then cleared for ship visits, if healthy. They must follow the SOP for ship visits as already given.

For Foreign nationals from the list of countries alone will be exempted from COVID-19 RT PCR and quarantine on submission of Primary 2 doses of vaccines, SDF & PBF for ship visits with PPE use and complying the Travel, Hotel Stay and Ship SOP as already in practice.

https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/ListofCountriesRegionsinrespectofwhichprimaryvaccinationschedulecompletioncertificateisallowedtobeuploadedincontextofguidelinesforinternationalarrivalsupdatedon10thFebruary2022.pdf (this is a dynamic one and as updated those nationals will be added in the exemption)

<u>Sign On:</u> Crew Changes will follow the same SOP of Safe Travel, Hotel Quarantine, CCR, Crew Changes SOP for 2 weeks on ship for safety of the existing crew. COVID-19 RT PCR will be exempted if the Indians, Foreign Nationals *(from listed countries as per dynamic link)* have the Primary 2 doses COVID-19 Vaccination completing 14 days from last dose. They will be screened and if healthy will be cleared for sign on. If the Shipping Company wishes to do COVID-19 RT PCR tests as additional safety protocol they will be allowed on request and must follow the health protocol based on the reports.

Sign Off: - All Indians and Foreign Nationals (from listed countries as per dynamic link) with Primary 2 doses of vaccination completing 14 days from last dose will be cleared after arrival screening with no requirement of 7 days of completion from last Port of call and COVID-19 RT PCR tests. They will go to designated Hotel quarantine till they depart from Chennai, self-monitor their health for 14 days, practice COVID Appropriate Behaviour, inform Local Health Authority if they develop COVID-19 symptoms. If tested COVID-19 positive to update immediately to us through the shipping agent. If the Foreign nationals require to have COVID-19 RT PCR tests as per their country requirement, a request must be given for all such crew and they will be cleared only after their negative COVID-19 RT PCR reports.

All **crew and visitors without Primary Vaccination** or **with COVID-19 symptoms** irrespective of vaccination status, will require to follow the existing guidelines of screening, testing and clearance based on their negative RT PCR reports.

Keep in touch for any assistance.

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Yours faithfully,

(Dr.S. Senthilnathan)
Port Health Officer,
Chennai.

All the SOPs for safe port operations, PPE/Disinfection/Screening/Safe disposal has already been shared in last circular.

CC To: - The Commissioner of Customs, Chennai for instructions to all Seaports till Nagapattinam. Tuticorin will be followed by PHO, Tuticorin.

The FRRO, AFFRO, Immigration Officer, Chennai, Kattupalli, Karaikal seaports. The Chairman of CPT, The CMD, KPL, The GM, AKKPL, CEO, Karaikal Port, The Principal Officer of MMD, The President CHENSAA, The President, CHA & Stevedores Association Chennai, Ennore, Kattupalli, Karaikal.