
COVID-19 REPORT

03 August 2020

India

Extreme Risk

Cases: **1,803,695**

Deaths: **38,135**

Recovered: **1,186,203**

Active cases: **579,357**

Reopening/Partial Measures through at least **2020-08-10**

Flight ban: Yes through at least **2020-08-31**

Entry ban: Yes indefinite

Quarantine on entry: All travellers for at least **14 days**

Hotspots: Ahmedabad, Delhi, Ganjam, Mumbai, Surat

LATEST ALERTS

01 August 2020 - International flight ban extended until 31 August - Update

Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) authorities announced that international commercial passenger flights remain suspended until at least 31 August, due to COVID-19. Cargo, repatriation, and other flights approved by the DGCA are exempt.

01 August 2020 - Lockdown imposed from Fridays-Mondays in Kathua, Jammu and Kashmir

Authorities imposed a lockdown in Kathua district, Jammu and Kashmir, from 17:00 local time (11:30 GMT) on Fridays until 06:00 local time (00:30 GMT) on Mondays that started from 31 July for an unspecified period, to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Residents, aside from essential service workers, were not allowed to leave their homes during the lockdown.

01 August 2020 - Total lockdown extended in Sikkim state until 3 August

A total lockdown, initially implemented on 20 July, was extended across Sikkim state until 06:00 local time (00:30 GMT) on 3 August after a spike in COVID-19 cases in the state in July. Authorities stated that amendments to movement restrictions, and the number of people allowed in gatherings, would come into effect from 3-31 August.

01 August 2020 - COVID-19 lockdown extended in Jharkhand state until 31 August - Update

A lockdown in Jharkhand state was extended until 31 August, to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Educational facilities and non-essential businesses will remain closed in containment zones, and a ban on public gatherings and nonessential travel remain in place. A curfew between 21:00-05:00 local time (15:30-23:30 GMT) is in effect, and face masks were compulsory in public places.

31 July 2020 - New COVID-19 quarantine guidelines implemented nationwide from 1 August - Update

All arriving passengers at international airports will be subject to health screenings and must quarantine for seven days at a government-approved facility at their own expense followed by seven days at their place of residence from 1 August due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

31 July 2020 - Authorities extend COVID-19 restrictions in Nagaland until 31 August – Update

Updated reports indicated that COVID-19 related restrictions, which included total lockdowns in containment zones, were extended across Nagaland state until 31 August, to tackle the outbreak; Mon and Dimapur districts were on lockdown until 2 August. As per the directives, in areas outside of lockdown, social, political and religious events were banned, metro rail services were suspended and entertainment venues were closed.

Overview

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic on 11 March. The outbreak has had a severe impact on international travel; disruptions to flights and other modes of transport as well as lockdowns and movement restrictions have taken place with little to no prior warning. Anyone undertaking travel at this time should ensure they are in good health, exercise good hygiene practices and be prepared for unexpected disruptions to their travel plans. Travellers from affected countries may face mandatory quarantine at their destination. Reconfirm itineraries prior to departure and closely follow travel alerts and advisories. During travel to any destination and for at least 14 days after returning, individuals should monitor themselves for any flu-like symptoms - especially fever or shortness of breath. If experiencing any symptoms, travellers should self-isolate and contact their doctor or local authorities.

Travellers should defer non-essential travel to **Extreme Risk** locations, which have severely restricted international and domestic travel as well as internal movement. These locations have widespread community transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and increasing or constant numbers of new COVID-19 cases.

Travellers should reconsider their need to travel to **High Risk** locations, which have severely restricted international travel and partially restricted domestic travel and internal movement. These locations have community transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus but decreasing numbers of new COVID-19 cases.

Travellers should exercise caution when travelling to **Medium Risk** locations, which have partially restricted international travel, but little to no restrictions on domestic travel and internal movement. These locations have clusters of or sporadic transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and constant low numbers of new COVID-19 cases.

Travellers should take normal precautions when travelling to **Moderate Risk** locations, which have little to no restrictions on international and domestic travel as well as internal movement. These locations have sporadic transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and near zero new COVID-19 cases.

Country Report

Summary

Authorities have relied on strict nationwide lockdown measures to tackle the COVID-19 outbreak. Some manufacturing, IT and construction industries-related companies have been allowed to resume limited operations in major cities like Delhi, Bangalore and Mumbai since early May. Authorities have introduced a red, yellow and green colour coding system to differentiate between districts with high numbers of infections (red zone) and those with no infections (green zone). Around 44 cases were reported per 100,000 people in India in the past 14 days, by late July, and the infections show no signs of slowing down. Authorities do not have a control over the spread of infections owing to India's large population and poor healthcare system. There is a dearth of qualified medical staff and equipment, including COVID-19 testing kits in rural areas. State officials are looking to ease restrictions to allow resumption of some economic activities in the near-term.

International Travel

International Flights

All commercial international flights are suspended until at least 31 August. Emergency, humanitarian, repatriation, diplomatic and cargo flights are exempt. Flights to and from the United States (US) and France were allowed to resume from 17 July, mostly to repatriate stranded travellers and for essential workers, after authorities made bilateral agreements with both countries.

Entry and Borders

All borders with China, Pakistan and Bangladesh are closed and entry to foreign nationals banned until further notice.

Quarantine

All arriving international passengers will be subject to health screenings and must quarantine for seven days at a government-approved facility at their own expense followed by seven days at their place of residence. Vande Bharat Mission repatriates and transit passengers are exempt. The central government has advised state officials to quarantine all Indian nationals and residents returning from abroad at a government designated facility for at least seven days at the traveller's own cost, followed by seven days of home quarantine. Some states have set their own quarantine rules which differ from the central government's directives.

All incoming travellers have to download the Aarogya Setu mobile app found here: <https://www.mygov.in/aarogyasetu-app/> upon arrival and register their details with respective state authorities.

Visitors arriving into Jammu and Kashmir by air, rail or road will be tested for COVID-19 and asked to self-quarantine for 14 days upon arrival or until they test negative for the virus; passengers must also download the Aarogya Setu Mobile App and have a valid phone number to avoid institutional quarantine. Some travellers arriving via the Lakhapur crossing will still be quarantined at government facilities.

Travellers arriving into Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Rajasthan, Gujarat, West Bengal and Maharashtra states can quarantine at home for 14 days upon arrival.

Domestic Situation

Areas on Lockdown

A lockdown was extended in red (containment zones) until at least 31 August. While some industries and offices have been allowed to resume operations in orange and green zones in Delhi, Mumbai and other major cities, people are allowed to travel out of their homes only for essential work or purchases. Police have been deployed to enforce lockdown measures. In areas that are in the containment zones in Delhi (including Kanghangeri and Vikipuri) and Mumbai (Metropolitan region), people are completely barred from leaving their homes. Authorities also periodically change containment zones every few days.

A lockdown is in effect in Assam's Jorhat district until further notice. Grocers may only operate from 09:00-16:00 local time (03:30-10:30 GMT) daily during the lockdown.

In Karnataka state, a lockdown will be implemented on all Sundays until 2 August. A lockdown is also in effect in Shimoga until further notice.

Authorities have imposed a lockdown along Meghalaya state's border areas which are located near neighbouring Assam's Guwahati, including Ri Bhoi district's Byrnihat, Khanapara, Ampatama, Bakhlapara and Jorabat, until further notice.

In West Bengal state, authorities will impose a lockdown on 5, 8, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 and 31 August, during which all public transport services will be suspended, flights at Kolkata Airport will be suspended and non-essential businesses closed.

Weekend lockdown measures are in effect in Rajouri and Kathua districts, Jammu and Kashmir state, from 17:00 local time (11:30 GMT) on Fridays until 06:00 local time (00:30 GMT) on Mondays until further notice. All shops and business establishments remain closed, public transport restricted and the entry to and exit from 'red zone' risk areas banned without a movement permit. Residents, aside from essential service workers, were not allowed to leave their homes during the lockdown.

A statewide lockdown in containment zones is in effect in Nagaland through 31 August, while Mon and Dimapur districts were on lockdown until 2 August. Statewide, social, political and religious events were banned, metro rail services were suspended and entertainment venues were closed.

A weekend lockdown remains in effect across Uttar Pradesh state, from 22:00 local time (16:30 GMT) on Fridays to 05:00 local time (23:30 GMT) on Mondays, until further notice; all markets and businesses will be closed during this period.

Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala state, was placed on lockdown until further notice as of 18 July.

A lockdown in Ganjam, Khurda, Cuttack and Jajpur districts and Rourkela in Odisha is in effect through 31 July. Officials also indicated that outdoor movement would be limited and travellers would not be permitted into the cities of Bhubaneswar and Cuttack.

A lockdown is in effect on Saturdays and Sundays in Uttarakhand's Dehradun, Haridwar, Udham Singh Nagar and Nainital districts until further notice. All travellers from outside the state must register with authorities prior to departure; the necessary form can be accessed at <http://dsclservices.org.in/apply.php>.

A 10-day lockdown is in effect for Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, from 20:00 local time (14:30 GMT) on 24 July. All nonessential businesses must close and travel in and out of the city will be restricted.

Officials in Manipur announced that a statewide 14-day lockdown is in effect from 23 July following the earlier lockdown of Thoubal district.

A lockdown is in effect for Mira Bhayandar, Kalyan-Dombivali and Bhiwandi-Nizampur areas in Thane, Maharashtra state, until 31 July, and in Buldhana district until 21 August. Essential workers and services were allowed to continue, while most public transport services remain closed. A lockdown is in effect in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh state, until 3 August. Essential workers and services are allowed to continue to operate, while all other travel is banned. Those entering the state are required to undergo an antigen test at the point of entry.

Authorities imposed a lockdown in Machilipatnam and surrounding areas in Krishna district, Andhra Pradesh state, from 3-9 August. Non-essential services will close during the lockdown, while grocery stores will open from 06:00-09:00 local time (00:30-03:30 GMT). Entry to and exit from the area on any type of vehicle will be banned.

A lockdown in Jharkhand state is in effect through 31 August. Educational facilities and non-essential businesses will remain closed in containment zones, and a ban on public gatherings and non-essential travel remain in place. A curfew between 21:00-05:00 local time (15:30-23:30 GMT) is in effect, and face masks are compulsory in public places.

A total lockdown is in effect across Sikkim state until 06:00 local time (00:30 GMT) on 3 August.

Areas under Curfew

A nationwide curfew exists from 22:00 to 05:00 (16:30-23:30 GMT) until 31 July. During the curfew all non-essential movement is banned. "Unlock 3" COVID-19 guidelines will be in effect from 1-31 August, eliminating the nightly curfew in most areas while continuing the enforcement of lockdowns in Containment Zones.

In Goa state, the daily curfew runs from 20:00-06:00 local time (14:30-00:30 GMT) until 10 August. Authorities announced that an overnight curfew will remain in effect in Maharashtra state, from 1-31 August; shopping and outdoor exercises will continue to be restricted to neighbourhood areas.

Authorities announced that a nightly curfew from 22:00-05:00 local time (16:30-23:30 GMT), except for essential activities, is in place in Bihar state from 1-16 August, due to COVID-19. Public transport, except taxis, rickshaws and approved air and rail services, and dine-in service at restaurants will remain suspended, and shopping malls, places of worship, parks and gyms closed. Gatherings will remain banned.

A lockdown with stay-at-home orders every Sunday and a nightly curfew from 21:00 local time (15:30 GMT) is in place in Tamil Nadu state from 1-31 August. An e-pass is required for inter-district travel; public transport, gatherings of over five people and entertainment and sports venues remain suspended. Store operations and restaurant dine-in at half capacity will be allowed to 19:00 local time (13:30 GMT).

Domestic Travel

In Delhi and Mumbai, authorities have allowed the resumption of some public buses and taxis with limited passenger capacities. Metro services remain suspended.

In Haryana, limited inter-state travel has resumed for work-related purposes to Delhi and other nearby cities. In Tamil Nadu, up to 50 percent of public bus services are operating, with the exception of high-risk COVID areas such as Chennai.

In Himachal Pradesh, Shimla, intra-district and inter-district public transport services resumed. Buses will operate at 60 percent capacity and services will not be provided to areas that are under containment orders. Passengers must undergo screening at departure; only those not displaying COVID-19 symptoms will be allowed to board. Indian Railways officials announced that the majority of rail services, including mail/express, passenger and suburban trains, are suspended nationwide until at least 12 August.

Airlines are allowed to operate at 45 percent capacity. Flights between Delhi (DEL/VIDP), Mumbai (BOM/VABB), Pune (PNQ/VAPO), Nagpur (NAG/VANP), Chennai (MAA/VOMM) and Ahmedabad (AMD/VAAH) airports and Kolkata Airport (CCU/VECC) will not operate through 15 August due to an uptick in COVID-19 cases. Flights from all other domestic airports may continue to operate weekly service to Kolkata during this period.

Officials in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Kerala, Karnataka, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Meghalaya and Odisha states and Jammu and Kashmir region announced that passengers arriving on domestic flights and trains will be subject to a 14-day quarantine period either at home or government facilities.

Other Restrictions

Authorities have allowed the reopening of restaurants, shopping malls, places of worship and hotels outside containment zones countrywide. The wearing of face masks in public, including onboard public transportation, is compulsory. Most non-essential businesses remain closed. Aarogya Setu, the government-released Bluetooth and GPS-based tracing application, used to help track and limit the transmission of COVID-19, is mandatory for all public and private sector employees.

Delhi

On 19 June in New Delhi, authorities announced that all those who test positive for COVID-19 must be quarantined for five days at least in a hospital or an isolation centre regardless of whether they show symptoms.

Maharashtra

People can travel to Metropolitan Mumbai only for work and essential services; private offices were allowed to operate at a 10 percent capacity and government offices at a 15 percent capacity. Residents are not allowed to travel beyond a two-kilometre radius (1.2 miles) of their homes for purchase of essential goods in Mumbai, Maharashtra state. In the rest of the state, residents were not allowed to travel out of their neighbourhoods for outdoor exercise or shopping.

Karnataka

Karnataka authorities have also issued an order requiring all interstate passengers arriving from the National Capital Territory, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh states to undergo seven days of quarantine in locations organised by the government, followed by a further seven days of home or hotel quarantine if they tested negative to COVID-19. Karnataka state authorities have requested civil aviation officials to reduce the number of incoming flights from Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan states, including to Bangalore's Kempegowda (BLR/VOBL), Mangalore (IXE/VOML) and Mysuru (MYQ/VOMY) airports.

Demonstrations and Unrest

Protests and related clashes over strict lockdown measures have taken place in parts of Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Bihar states since early April. Migrant workers have also held demonstrations in Mumbai (Maharashtra state), Rajasthan state and Surat (Gujarat state), as travel restrictions prevented them from returning to their home towns in different states. These rallies have turned violent. Other protests in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal have centered on alleged police attempts to bury deceased individuals amid fears of the outbreak spreading further in densely populated localities. Medical workers and doctors have also been targeted in violent assaults by protesting relatives of individuals who died due to COVID-19. Related protests which have the potential to escalate to unrest are likely to continue in the near-term as infection numbers rise and related restrictions continue in parts of India.

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