

বি. পি. গোপালীকা, আই.এ.এস

অতিরিক্ত মুখ্য সচিব
স্বরাষ্ট্র ও পার্বত্য বিষয়ক দপ্তর ও
পরিষদীয় বিষয়ক দপ্তর
পশ্চিমবঙ্গ সরকার
"নবান্ন"

৩২৫, শরৎ চ্যাটার্জী রোড, হাওড়া- ৭১১ ১০২
দূরভাষ : ২২১৪ ৫৬৫৬, দূরবার্তা : ২২১৪ ৩০০১



B. P. Gopalika, IAS

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Date:- December 30, 2021

To
Sri Rajiv Bansal, IAS
Secretary
Ministry of Civil Aviation
Government India
New Delhi

Subject: Restrictions on incoming international flights to West Bengal -Reg

Sir

I am to inform you that in view of the rising number of Omicron cases globally as well within the country, the State Government has decided to temporarily and until further orders suspend all direct flights from United Kingdom to Kolkata with effect from 3rd January, 2022. Flights, which is an at risk country as notified by MOHFW, Government of India, will not be allowed in the State and any NOCs which have been issued stand withdrawn.

- Further, with effect from 3rd January, 2022, all passengers coming from other non at- risk countries by international flights to West Bengal will have to mandatorily undergo a test on arrival at their cost. The airlines will randomly select 10% of the passengers for RT-PCR test and the balance 90% shall undergo Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) at the arrival airport. Those found positive in the RAT test will have to further undergo RT-PCR tests as may be required by the health authorities.
- Further, all passengers have to mandatorily pre-book the test before boarding to reduce waiting time on arrival, which the airlines must ensure prior to allowing the boarding.
- Accordingly, the airport authorities may be asked to augment the holding capacity of the arrival lounge on the international side and also increase the number of testing counters so as to reduce the waiting time for the passengers at the airport.
- Further, the airlines may be requested to evenly space out the flight arrivals in NSCBI, Kolkata in consultation with the Airport Director and the state nodal officer so as to reduce waiting time.
- I would also request that all airlines and the Indian Missions may be communicated accordingly of the aforesaid decision of the State Government.

Yours faithfully

(B.P. Gopalika)