

High Commission of India
Victoria-Mahe, Seychelles

PRESS RELEASE

VANDE BHARAT MISSION (VBM) REPATRIATION OPERATION FOR INDIAN NATIONALS STRANDED IN SEYCHELLES

Two Air India flights for repatriation of Indian nationals stranded in Seychelles has been organised by the Government of India. In order to repatriate Indian nationals stranded in Seychelles, the following two have been scheduled as part of phase III of '**Vande Bharat Mission**' a Government of India initiative to undertake the **largest ever repatriation from all over the world** for return of Indian nationals stranded in different parts of the world due to COVID19 pandemic. Covering the International Airports in **Chennai and Mumbai**, these Aircrafts shall cater to the repatriation of stranded Indians to Southern & Central/Northern parts of India respectively.

June 23, 2020: AI 1912 Seychelles to Mumbai (Departure time: 13:50 hrs)

June 27, 2020: AI 1994 Seychelles to Chennai (Departure time: 13:00 hrs)

2. Based on the registrations received by the High Commission of India, passenger manifests will be prepared for these flights. Priority will be given to compelling cases of persons in distress, including **migrant workers/labourers who have been laid off, short term visa holders faced with expiry of visa, people with medical emergency/ pregnant women/elderly, those required to return to India due to death of family member, and students** as stated in the Standard Operating Procedure issued by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, for movement of Stranded Indian Nationals dated 24 May, 2020.

<https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/MHAOrderDt24052020forspecifiedpersonstotravelabroad.pdf>

3. Information regarding these flight are also updated on the High Commission of India website. As the High Commission of India, Seychelles has received a large number of repatriation requests from Indian nationals stranded in Seychelles, basis the registrations received so far, people would be accommodated on these scheduled flights. M/s Satguru Travel Agency in Seychelles has been appointed by Air India to contact the registered stranded citizens, confirm the bookings and issue the tickets. Officials from Satguru shall be contacting the registered travelers shortly for the ticket booking. While confirming the booking, **Undertaking form for undergoing mandatory quarantine shall also need to be duly filled and submitted to the said agency.**

4. Passengers will bear the **cost of travel by the flight as well as for mandatory quarantine facilities on arrival in India.** Information regarding quarantine facilities and Standard operating Procedure followed by respective States/UT Governments is available on the High Commission of India website. It is also requested that the passengers carry masks and other protection kits before boarding the flight and also download **Arogya Setu App** and activate it upon landing in India. **Only asymptomatic passengers will be allowed to board the flight.**

5. Those stranded Indian nationals who have not yet registered with the High Commission may kindly do so on the following link

<https://forms.gle/MmampmT8mfQhmcQo6>

6. We urge all stranded Indian nationals to be patient and follow the updates on High Commission's website and social media.

Victoria-Mahe, Seychelles

15 June 2020