

දුරකථන) 0112669192 , 0112675011
தொலைபேசி) 0112669192 , 0112675011
Telephone) 0112669192 , 0112675011

තැපැස්) 0112693866
பெக்ஸ்) 0112693866
Fax) 0112693866

විද්‍යුත් තැපෑල) postmaster@health.gov.lk
மின்னஞ்சல் முகவரி)
e-mail)

වෙබ් අඩවිය) www.health.gov.lk
இணையத்தளம்)
website)



සුවසිරිපාය
சுவசிரிபாய
SUWASIRIPAYA

මගේ අංකය)
எனது இல)
My No.) DQ/06/2020

ඔබේ අංකය)
உமது இல)
Your No. :)

දිනය) 09/07/2020
திகதி)
Date)

සෞඛ්‍ය හා දේශීය වෛද්‍ය සේවා අමාත්‍යාංශය
சுகாதார மற்றும் சுதேசவையத்தியச் சேவைகள் அமைச்சு
Ministry of Health and Indigenous Medical Services

Director General / Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka
Director General / Department of Immigration and Emigration
Director General / Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority
Chairman/ Airport Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited
Chairman / Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau

**PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES TO BE ADOPTED BY TRAVELLERS
DURING THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK IN SRI LANKA**

International Points of Entry (POE) in Sri Lanka will be opened to travellers in a phased-out manner.

A. Arriving passengers

1. Risk categorization of countries

- a) Risk categorization of the countries on COVID-19 will be done by the Ministry of Health.
- b) Based on the risk categorization of countries on COVID-19 by Ministry of Health, Civil Aviation Authority Sri Lanka (CAASL) and Department of Immigration and Emigration will give the clearance to the travellers to enter into the country.

2. Prerequisite for overseas passengers before embarkation

- a) At the time of issuing travel ticket, all passengers shall be given the Health Declaration Form (HDF) of Sri Lanka by the airline with the air ticket.
- b) The staff of Check-In counters shall ensure the availability of a filled HDF with the air ticket of the passengers.
- c) Airline crew members shall fill the HDF of Sri Lanka.
- d) Passengers and crew members without the filled HDF shall not be boarded to the flight.
- e) CAASL should disseminate a communiqué amongst all airlines/travel agents to ensure the availability of filled HDF with travellers.

3. Measures to be followed at the airport in Sri Lanka

Temperature screening

- a) All arriving passengers and airline crew members should undergo temperature screening through the thermal scanners.
- b) Travellers with a temperature of 37.4⁰C (99.3⁰F) or above should be referred to the Airport Health Office of Quarantine Unit.
- c) Their temperature will be re-checked after 15 minutes by the Airport Health Officer (Medical Officer of Airport Health Office) and if the temperature is high, they will be transferred by Airport Health Officer to a designated hospital.

Submission of the Health Declaration Form of Sri Lanka

- a) All passengers and airline crew members should submit the HDF to the Health Counters set up at the airport in Sri Lanka.
- b) The Public Health Inspectors will scrutinize the HDF and travellers with high-risk conditions will be referred to the Airport Health Officer.
- c) Airport Health Officer will scrutinize the traveller, assess the risk condition and a decision will be made whether to permit disembarkation or transfer to a designated hospital in Sri Lanka.

Face masks

- a) All travellers should carry an adequate number of face masks with them.
- b) All travellers should wear a face mask throughout, from the time of arriving at the departing airport until leaving the arriving airport. (Passengers with chronic lung diseases/ any respiratory issue should inform the airline staff prior to embarkation)
- c) If masks are needed for the travellers, Airport and Aviation Services Sri Lanka Limited (AASL) should provide masks at a cost at the arriving airport.

4. COVID-19 PCR testing at the airport on arrival in Sri Lanka

- a) All passengers should undergo the mandatory PCR testing on arrival at the airport on Day 1.
- b) The testing laboratory shall email all test results immediately to the Epidemiology Unit of Ministry of Health (epidunit@slt.net.lk and samithag@hotmail.com).
- c) The AASL shall make suitable logistic arrangements to set up the sample collection facility and arrange the transport facilities to transport samples to the testing laboratory.

5. Action regarding Airline crew members

Crew member having a COVID-19 PCR report done within last 7 – 10 days are exempted from PCR testing on Day 1 at an arriving airport in Sri Lanka.

Refer the following letters of Ministry of Health for further details:

1. Letter No. DQ/06/2020 of Director General of Health Services, dated 03/06/2020 on Measures to be adopted at Airports in Sri Lanka during the Phase of COVID-19

II. Letter No. DQ/06/2020 of Deputy Director General of Public Health Services-I, dated 09/06/2020 on Conducting PCR test of crew members of layover flights originated from Sri Lanka

6. Action regarding different categories of passengers

I. Tourists

- a) Tourists with guided tours are allowed to travel to Sri Lanka depending on the risk categorization of the countries on COVID-19.
- b) Only tourists with a pre-planned group tour booked via Sri Lanka Tourist Development Authority (SLTDA) / registered travel agency / approved accommodation service providers in Sri Lanka will be permitted to enter the country.
- c) A minimum number of tourists to be included in a tour group is eight and if a family is arriving, minimum of 2 persons are allowed.
- d) Further details are mentioned in Operational Guidelines with Health Protocols published by Sri Lanka Tourism and Ministry of Health.
- e) The "Visa Free" status and the issuance of "On Arrival" visas are suspended until further notice.
- f) All tourists entering Sri Lanka are required to obtain online visas before arrival via Electronic Travel Authorization system.
- g) The booked tour should be a prerequisite for issuance of tourist visa.
- h) It is mandatory to have a health insurance covering COVID-19 when issuing visa.
- i) The accommodation service providers, travel agents and/or tour operators should share accommodation and guided tour details of tourists with the SLTDA through a data login process.
- j) SLTDA shall email the details to the Epidemiology Unit of Ministry of Health (epidunit@slt.net.lk and samithag@hotmail.com).
- k) It is mandatory for all tourists to commit to a minimum stay of six (06) nights in Sri Lanka and book all accommodation only at SLTDA registered and 'Safe & Secure' certified establishments; the first night should be booked at an accommodation establishment in close proximity to the arrival airport until results of the on-arrival PCR tests are released (Colombo/Negombo areas for arrivals from Bandaranaike/Ratmalana International Airports and Hambantota area for arrivals from Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport).
- l) If any tourist is positive for COVID-19 PCR, the tourist shall be admitted to a designated private hospital and close contacts will be quarantined as decided by the Ministry of Health
- m) All costs to cover the hospital stay and treatment or quarantine shall be borne by the tourist.
- n) The travel agents and/or tour operators/ approved accommodation service providers in Sri Lanka should inform the area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) about the tourists, and their whereabouts will be tracked using a tracking system.
- o) The travel agents and/or tour operators/ approved accommodation service providers in Sri Lanka shall be responsible for the health of the tourist until the tourist leaves the country. If any tourist has symptoms of COVID-19, hotel doctor shall assess and admit the tourist to a designated private hospital.
- p) The travel agents and/or tour operators/ approved accommodation service providers in Sri Lanka should inform the area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) and SLTDA on such admissions.

- q) Should perform the mandatory repeat COVID-19 PCR testing at 5th -7th day of entering to Sri Lanka/ or if febrile or display respiratory symptoms whichever comes first at a Health Ministry approved private laboratory.
- r) The testing laboratory shall immediately inform the Epidemiology Unit about all test results via email (epidunit@sltnet.lk and samithag@hotmail.com).
- s) Hotel doctor shall admit the positive tourist to a designated private hospital.
- t) Close contacts will be quarantined for 14 days.

II. Foreigners arriving to participate in Business Meetings, Negotiations, Short Term Training Programs, Short Term Religious Events and for Short Term Technical Assistance and Machine Installments

- a) Foreigners of these categories are allowed to travel to Sri Lanka depending on the risk categorization of the countries on COVID-19.
- b) The "Visa Free" status and the issuance of "On Arrival" visas are suspended until further notice.
- c) All travellers entering Sri Lanka are required to obtain the visas before arrival via the Head Office of the Department of Immigration and Emigration, Sri Lanka or Sri Lankan Overseas Missions.
- d) It is mandatory to have a health insurance covering COVID-19 when issuing visa.
- e) It is mandatory for all travellers to commit to a minimum stay of six (06) nights in Sri Lanka and book all accommodation only at SLTDA registered and 'Safe & Secure' certified establishments; the first night should be booked at an accommodation establishment in close proximity to the arrival airport until results of the on-arrival PCR tests are released (Colombo/Negombo areas for arrivals from Bandaranaike/Ratmalana International Airports and Hambantota area for arrivals from Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport).
- f) The organizers/sponsors in Sri Lanka should inform the area Medical Officer of Health about the traveller and their whereabouts will be tracked using a tracking system.
- g) Should perform the mandatory repeat COVID-19 PCR testing at 5th -7th day of entering to Sri Lanka/ or if febrile or display respiratory symptoms whichever comes first at a Health Ministry approved private laboratory.
- h) The testing laboratory shall immediately inform the Epidemiology Unit about all test results via email (epidunit@sltnet.lk and samithag@hotmail.com).
- i) If any traveller who is positive for COVID-19 PCR on Day 1 or repeat PCR test on 5th - 7th day, the traveller shall be admitted to a designated private hospital
- j) All costs to cover the hospital stay and treatment or quarantine shall be borne by the traveller.

III. Foreigners who are arriving for the purpose of Employment or Investment, Education, Long Term Religious Activities, Spend the Retired Life and for Long Term Medical Treatment

- a) Foreigners of these categories are allowed to travel to Sri Lanka depending on the risk categorization of the countries on COVID-19.
- b) The "Visa Free" status and the issuance of "On Arrival" visas are suspended until further notice.
- c) All travellers entering Sri Lanka are required to obtain the visas before arrival via the Head Office of the Department of Immigration and Emigration, Sri Lanka or Sri Lankan Overseas Missions.

- d) If any foreign traveller is already having residence visa to enter Sri Lanka, they should get prior approval from Ministry of Foreign Relations, Sri Lanka or Sri Lankan Overseas Missions, to arrive in Sri Lanka.
- e) It is mandatory to have a health insurance covering COVID-19 when issuing visa.
- f) It is mandatory for travellers to book all accommodation only at SLTDA registered and 'Safe & Secure' certified establishments; the first night should be booked at an accommodation establishment in close proximity to the arrival airport until results of the on-arrival PCR tests are released (Colombo/Negombo areas for arrivals from Bandaranaike/Ratmalana International Airports and Hambantota area for arrivals from Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport).
- g) These foreigners shall be subjected to a mandatory Quarantine period of 14 days
- h) The organizers/sponsors in Sri Lanka should inform the area Medical Officer of Health about the traveller and their whereabouts will be tracked using a tracking system.
- i) Shall perform the mandatory repeat COVID-19 PCR testing at 10th -12th day of entering to Sri Lanka/ or if febrile or display respiratory symptoms whichever comes first at a Health Ministry approved private laboratory.
- j) The testing laboratory shall immediately inform the Epidemiology Unit about all test results via email (epidunit@sltnet.lk and samithag@hotmail.com).
- k) If any foreigner who is positive for COVID-19 PCR on Day 1 or repeat PCR test on 10th – 12th day, the traveller shall be admitted to a designated private hospital.
- l) All costs to cover the hospital stay and treatment or quarantine shall be borne by the traveller.

IV. Sri Lankans and their immediate Foreign Family Members (Spouses married to Sri Lankans/Foreign Passport holding Children of Sri Lankan Parents/ Dependent of Sri Lankan Citizens), Ex-Sri Lankans and Dual Citizens

- a) Travellers of these categories are allowed to travel to Sri Lanka depending on the risk categorization of the countries on COVID-19.
- b) The "Visa Free" status and the issuance of "On Arrival" visas are suspended until further notice.
- c) All Travellers entering Sri Lanka are required to obtain the visas before arrival via the Head Office of the Department of Immigration and Emigration, Sri Lanka or Sri Lankan Overseas Missions.
- d) If any foreign traveller is already having residence visa to enter Sri Lanka or if a Sri Lankan or a Dual Citizen is intended to arrive in Sri Lanka, they should get prior approval from Ministry of Foreign Relations, Sri Lanka or Sri Lankan Overseas Missions to arrive in Sri Lanka.
- e) It is mandatory for all travellers to book all accommodation only at SLTDA registered and 'Safe & Secure' certified establishments; the first night should be booked at an accommodation establishment in close proximity to the arrival airport until results of the on-arrival PCR tests are released (Colombo/Negombo areas for arrivals from Bandaranaike/Ratmalana International Airports and Hambantota area for arrivals from Mattala Rajapaksa International Airport).
- f) These travellers shall be subjected to a mandatory Quarantine period of 14 days
- g) Area Medical Officer of Health should be informed about the traveller and their whereabouts will be tracked using a tracking system.
- h) Shall perform the mandatory repeat COVID-19 PCR testing at 10th -12th day of entering to Sri Lanka/ or if febrile or display respiratory symptoms whichever comes first at a Health Ministry approved laboratory.

- i) The testing laboratory shall immediately inform the Epidemiology Unit about all test results via email (epidunit@sltnet.lk and samithag@hotmail.com).
- j) If any foreigner who is positive for COVID-19 PCR on Day 1 or repeat PCR test on 10th – 12th day, the traveller shall be admitted to a designated hospital.

V. Staff of diplomatic missions and UN organizations

- a) Diplomatic/UN mission staff and their immediate family members who arrive at an International Airport in Sri Lanka will be subjected to temperature screening.
- b) The foreign national staff of the diplomatic missions/UN organisations who are holding diplomatic/UN/official passports and their immediate family members will be required to submit negative PCR test reports in English, obtained within 72 hours prior to departure from their respective countries.
- c) If they are unable to provide PCR test reports, they would have to undergo a mandatory PCR test at an arriving International Airport in Sri Lanka which should be arranged by the diplomatic mission/UN organisation through an approved private laboratory.
- d) If the PCR report is positive for COVID-19, the person will be referred immediately to a Government designated approved medical facility or approved private medical facility for treatment. Cost of treatment at the government medical facility should be borne by the diplomatic/UN staff.
- e) Foreign national diplomatic/UN staff and their family members who are febrile or display respiratory symptoms will be referred to an approved private hospital or a Government designated approved medical facility for treatment. Cost of treatment at the government medical facility should be borne by the diplomatic staff.
- f) Heads of Missions and foreign national staff of diplomatic missions/ UN organizations who hold diplomatic/UN/official passports and their immediate family members will be permitted to self-quarantine at their residences for a period of 14 days, subject to the supervision of the respective Heads of Mission and the local health authorities.
- g) On completion of mandatory quarantine period of 14 days, area Medical Officer of Health should be informed.
- k) They shall perform the mandatory repeat COVID-19 PCR testing at 10th -12th day of entering to Sri Lanka/ or if febrile or display respiratory symptoms whichever comes first at a Health Ministry approved private laboratory.
- h) The testing laboratory should immediately inform the Epidemiology Unit about all test results via email (epidunit@sltnet.lk and samithag@hotmail.com).
- i) If there is a positive test result, should be immediately admitted to an approved private hospital or a Government designated approved medical facility for treatment. Cost of treatment at a government medical facility should be borne by the diplomatic staff.
- j) All Sri Lankan staff members of diplomatic missions/UN organisations will have to undergo a 14 day mandatory quarantine in a government approved designated quarantine centre.

B. Departure passengers

- a) Carrying a negative PCR report by passengers when boarding the flight depends on the requirement of the other states.
- b) Tourist should carry a negative COVID-19 PCR report done on 5th -7th day of arrival to Sri Lanka during embarkation.
- c) The staff of Check-In counters shall ensure the availability of 5th -7th day COVID-19 PCR report with the air ticket of the passengers.

Temperature screening


- a) All departure passengers should undergo thermal screening through the thermal scanners at the entrance of the departure area.
- b) Passengers with a temperature of 37.4⁰C (99.3⁰F) or above should be referred to the Airport Health Office.
- c) Their temperature will be re-checked after 15 minutes by the Medical Officer of the Airport Health Office and if the temperature is high, they will be transferred to a designated hospital.
- d) The temperature of the passengers at the departure gates should be checked with a handheld IR thermometer.
- e) Passengers with fever should be referred to the Airport Health Office.
- f) Their temperature will be re-tested after 15 minutes by the Medical Officer of the Airport Health Office and if the temperature is high, they will be transferred to a designated hospital.

Hand cleaning

- a) Alcohol-based hand sanitizers should be provided to passengers by AASL to clean their hands before entering the departure area.

Face masks

- a) All passengers should wear a face mask before entering the airport building.
- b) If masks are not available with the passengers, AASL should provide masks at a cost.


Dr Anil Jasinghe
Director General of Health Services

Dr. Anil Jasinghe
Director General of Health Services
Ministry of Health & Indigenous Medicine Services
"Suwasiripaya"
385, Rev. Baddegama Wimalawansa Thero Mawatha,
Colombo 10.

Cc:

Secretary, Ministry of Health and Indigenous Medical Services
Secretary/ Ministry of Foreign Relations
Secretary/ Ministry of Tourism and Aviation
Additional Secretary (Public Health Services)
Commander of Sri Lanka Army
Deputy Director General (PHS)1
Director/ Quarantine Unit
Chief Epidemiologist/ Epidemiology Unit

