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சுவசிரிபாய  
SUWASIRIPAYA

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சுகாதார அமைச்சு  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

මගේ අංකය )  
எனது இல ) DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021  
My No. )  
ඔබේ අංකය )  
உமது இல )  
Your No. : )  
දිනය )  
திகதி ) 26.06.2021  
Date )

All Deputy Director Generals  
Director, Quarantine  
Chief Epidemiologist  
Provincial Directors of Health Services  
Regional Directors of Health Services  
Provincial/District Consultant Community Physicians  
Regional Epidemiologists  
Medical Officers of Health  
Medical Officer, Airport / Port Health Offices

**Quarantine measures for travellers arriving  
from overseas during the pandemic of COVID-19**

Due to the current COVID-19 situation in Sri Lanka and globally, following quarantine measures are imposed for travellers arriving in Sri Lanka.

These quarantine measures are amendments to the existing measures indicated in the following two letters issued by the Director General of Health Services.

- Letter No. DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021 dated 06.04.2021 on Quarantine measures for travellers arriving from overseas during the pandemic of COVID-19.
- Letters No. DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021 dated 12.04.2021 on public health measures to be adopted by Foreign National staff members serving in Diplomatic Missions/UN Organizations and their accompanying parents, spouses and children.

Following two letters issued by the Director General of Health Services are hereby cancelled.

- Letters No. DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021 dated 12.04.2021 on public health measures to be adopted by Sri Lankan staff members serving in Diplomatic Missions/UN Organizations and Standard operating procedure for mandatory home quarantine for Sri Lankan staff members serving in Diplomatic Missions/UN Organizations in overseas who are holding Diplomatic/UN/Official passports and their accompanying parents, spouses and children.
- Letter No. DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021 dated 13.04.2021 on Mandatory home quarantine for officials currently residing in Sri Lanka who are undertaking an important State visit or Official visit for government purposes by Sri Lankan government officials under bio secure travel bubble.

## **A Pre departure negative COVID-19 test report**

- A.1 All travellers arriving in Sri Lanka should mandatorily carry a negative COVID-19 test report in English language.
- A.1.1 For Sri Lankan citizens: the test needs to be either a PCR test done within 96 hours prior to embarkation or a Rapid Antigen Test done within 48 hours prior to embarkation.
- A.1.2 For Foreign passport holders and Dual citizens: should carry a negative report of a PCR test done within 96 hours before embarkation.

Note: Airlines may request a negative PCR test result done within 72 hours prior to embarkation.

## **B COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate/Card**

Travellers who have received the recommended doses of COVID-19 vaccine should carry the original vaccination certificate / card (together with a certified copy of English language translation if the certificate/card is not in English or if relevant data are not indicated in English in a non - English certificate / card) or a verifiable evidence of vaccination.

## **C On arrival (Day One) COVID-19 PCR testing**

- C.1 All travellers of twelve years and above should undergo COVID-19 PCR test on arrival (Day One) from a Ministry of Health approved private sector laboratory or a state sector laboratory.
- C.2 Children below twelve years of age will be exempted from on arrival (Day One) PCR testing, if they are continued to be quarantined at Quarantine Hotel / Centre / Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel.
- However, if the on arrival (Day One) PCR testing of an accompanying traveller of the child is positive for COVID-19, child will also be subjected to PCR testing subsequently.
- C.3 If the parent is permitted to undergo mandatory quarantine at a residence, and if the children are allowed to undergo mandatory quarantine at a residence with the parent, children of two years and above should undergo on arrival (Day One) COVID-19 PCR test.
- C.4 Children below two years are exempted from Day One (on arrival) COVID-19 PCR testing.
- However, if the on arrival (Day One) PCR testing of an accompanying traveller of the child is positive for COVID-19, child will also be subjected to PCR testing subsequently.

## D Quarantine measures for travellers after arriving in Sri Lanka

- D.1 Travellers arriving from overseas including Sri Lankans (including Sri Lankan Seafarers/Sea Marshalls arriving to go home), Dual Citizens, Tourists, Foreign Nationals (including Valid resident visa holders) mentioned in My letter No. DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021 dated 06.04.2021 should be mandatorily quarantined at a Quarantine Hotel/ Quarantine Centre / Safe and Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel until completion of fourteen days.
- D.2 Quarantine Measures for **Fully Vaccinated Sri Lankans or Dual Citizens who have a residence / home in Sri Lanka** are mentioned in **Section E**
- D.3 My letter No. DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021 dated 12.04.2021 is amended where Foreign national staff members of the diplomatic missions (*except the Foreign National staff categories of diplomatic missions mentioned in section D.3.1*) or UN organizations/ UN Specialized agencies/ International Organizations with permanent offices in Sri Lanka (*except the Foreign National Resident Coordinator of the United Nations, Foreign National Heads of UN Specialized agencies and Foreign National Heads of International Organizations mentioned in section D.3.2*) who are holding Diplomatic/UN/Official passports and their accompanying parents, spouses and children should be mandatorily quarantined at a Quarantine Hotel/ Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel until completion of fourteen days.
- D.3.1 **Foreign National** staff members holding Diplomatic Passports in Residence Diplomatic Missions of countries which have established diplomatic relations with Sri Lanka and their **accompanying** parents, spouse and children shall undergo mandatory quarantine until completion of 14 days at a residence arranged by the Diplomatic Mission in Sri Lanka or Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel or Quarantine Hotel.
- The permitted staff members are Ambassador/ High Commissioner/ Minister/ Minister Counselor/ Counselor/ First Secretary/ Second Secretary / Third Secretary/ Attaché.
- D.3.2 **Foreign National** Resident Coordinator of the United Nations, **Foreign National** Heads of UN Specialized agencies and **Foreign National** Heads of International Organizations with permanent offices in Sri Lanka and having recognized diplomatic status (mentioned in **Annex 01**) and their **accompanying** parents, spouse and children shall undergo mandatory quarantine until completion of 14 days at a residence arranged by the respective organization/agency in Sri Lanka or Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel or Quarantine Hotel.
- Respective Diplomatic Mission/organization/agency with permanent offices in Sri Lanka should take prior approval in writing from area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) mentioning that the residence is suitable for mandatory quarantine, if approved Foreign National staff members of Diplomatic Missions, Heads of organizations/agencies mentioned in Annex 01 are undergoing mandatory quarantine at a residence.

D.4 **Exit COVID-19 PCR testing for travellers undergoing institutional (Hotel/ Centre) quarantine or quarantine at a residence approved by area MOH**

Children below two years are exempted from Day One (on arrival) and exit COVID-19 PCR testing.

All travellers of twelve years and above should undergo Day One (on arrival) COVID-19 PCR testing and all travellers of two years and above should undergo Day 11 to 14 PCR testing if undergoing Institutional Quarantine (Hotel/ Centre) or Quarantine at residence approved by area MOH.

Travellers should be released from the Quarantine Hotel/ Quarantine Centre / Safe and Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel/ Quarantine residence **after completion of fourteen days** of quarantine with negative COVID-19 test results done on Day One (On arrival) and Day 11 to 14.

E **Quarantine Measures for Fully Vaccinated Sri Lankans or Dual Citizens who have a residence/ home in Sri Lanka**

Due to the current COVID-19 situation in Sri Lanka and globally, following quarantine measures are applicable only for **Sri Lankans or Dual Citizens arriving in Sri Lanka** who have obtained recommended doses of the COVID-19 vaccines and depart from abroad two weeks after completion of vaccination (**Fully Vaccinated**) and **if they have a residence/home in Sri Lanka to undergo mandatory quarantine** until completion of 14 days after arriving in Sri Lanka.

As there are positive cases reported among fully vaccinated persons in Sri Lanka and in other countries, it is important to minimize COVID-19 or its variants entering in to the country. Therefore, home quarantine is allowed **only for Sri Lankans or Dual Citizens, only if they depart from abroad two weeks after completion of recommended doses of vaccination**. If they complete the two weeks of post vaccination period during the institutional quarantine period in Sri Lanka, they are **NOT eligible** for home quarantine for the balance quarantine period.

E.1 **On arrival PCR testing of Fully Vaccinated Sri Lankans/ Dual Citizens**

Fully vaccinated Sri Lankan Citizens (including Sri Lankan Seafarers arriving by air) or Dual Citizens should stay at a Quarantine Hotel/ Quarantine Centre or a Safe and Secure Certified Level One Hotel until On Arrival (Day One) negative PCR test result is available and with the negative report, they can be sent for mandatory home quarantine.

E.2 **Discharging Fully Vaccinated Sri Lankans/ Dual Citizens from Quarantine Hotel / Centre / Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel with a negative On Arrival (Day One) COVID-19 PCR report**

E.2.1 In charge officer of the Quarantine Hotel / Centre or Hotel Doctor at Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel should discharge the Fully Vaccinated Sri Lankans or Dual Citizens with negative On Arrival (Day One) COVID-19 PCR report after verifying the status of vaccination (through documents).

- E.2.2 When discharging Fully Vaccinated Sri Lankans or Dual Citizens, In charge officer of the Quarantine Hotel / Centre or Hotel Doctor at Safe & Secure Certified Level 1 Hotel should issue a "Discharge Document" and email the details to the Epidemiology Unit (chepid@sltnet.lk and samithag@hotmail.com) of the Ministry of Health.
- E.2.3 If there are children **below twelve years**, they can be discharged with fully vaccinated Sri Lankan or Dual Citizen parent by adhering to following measures:
- Children of **two years to twelve years** should be subjected to an on arrival (Day One) PCR testing and they should have negative results.
  - Children **below two years** will not be subjected to PCR testing after arrival to Sri Lanka and they will be discharged with fully vaccinated caretakers. However, if the on arrival (Day One) PCR testing of an accompanying traveller of the child is positive for COVID-19, child below two years will also be subjected to PCR testing subsequently.
- E.2.4 Should arrange their own transport to travel to residence/home and should not use public transport for this purpose.
- Throughout the travelling, they should strictly adhere to COVID-19 preventive measures imposed by Government of Sri Lanka.
- Driver and the passengers of the vehicle should properly wear a facemask throughout.
- Should travel directly to the destination without any stopovers.

**E.3 Fully Vaccinated Sri Lankans/ Dual Citizens after arriving at residence/ home with a negative On Arrival (Day One) COVID-19 PCR report**

- E.3.1 If there are no facilities at residence / home to undergo mandatory home quarantine (i.e. having separate room, not mixing with other persons already living at the household), travellers are required to undergo institutional quarantine (Hotel/Centre).
- E.3.2 All Fully Vaccinated Sri Lankans or Dual Citizens should immediately inform the area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) by telephone or email, soon after their arrival to residence / home.
- E.3.3 They shall mandatorily home quarantine for the balance period (until completion of 14 days from the date of arrival to Sri Lanka) at the residence / home under the supervision of area MOH/ Public Health Inspector (PHI).
- E 3.4 As the travellers arrive from overseas, it is important to minimize the COVID-19 and its variants entering in to the country. If there are no facilities at home to undergo mandatory home quarantine without mixing with other members of the household, the whole household should be quarantined. If there are facilities at home to undergo mandatory home quarantine, only the travellers should be home quarantined.

E.4 **Exit PCR testing of Fully Vaccinated Sri Lankans/ Dual Citizens undergoing home quarantine**

Fully Vaccinated Sri Lankans/ Dual Citizen and their children of two to twelve years should be subjected to a COVID-19 PCR test on the Day 14, at a Health Ministry approved laboratory and submit the report to the area MOH. With a negative PCR report, they will be discharged from home quarantine with completion of 14 days after arrival into Sri Lanka.

However, if the PCR testing of an accompanying traveller of the child is positive for COVID-19, child below two years will also be subjected to PCR testing subsequently.

Travellers with a travel history (including transit) in the past 14 days to India, Vietnam, South American countries and South African countries (South Africa, Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe) will not be permitted to disembark in Sri Lanka.

Mandatory Quarantine at residence/ home is **Not Applicable** for travellers arriving / transited /having a travel history within past 14 days from India, Vietnam, South American countries and South African countries.

Quarantine period of above-mentioned travellers will be extended, if they are identified as immediate close contacts of a COVID-19 positive person or if they arrive from high-risk countries as instructed by health authorities.

This guideline is effective from 01<sup>st</sup> of July 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2021 and will be revised depending on the COVID-19 situation in the country and the global situation.

  
**Dr Asela Gunawardena**  
**Director General of Health Services**

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Secretary, Foreign Ministry  
Secretary, Ministry of Tourism  
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Controller General, Department of Immigration and Emigration  
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Director General, Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka  
Director General, Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority  
Head, National Operation Centre for Prevention of COVID - 19 Outbreak  
Chairman, Airport Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Limited