

AV-29017/5/2020-DT
Government of India
Ministry of Civil Aviation

B Block, Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan,
New Delhi, Dated 06th May, 2021

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub:- Guidelines for vaccination of Civil Aviation Community-reg.

Government of India has implemented the vaccination program in the country against COVID19, in different phases. From 1st May, 2021 onwards, Government has allowed vaccination for the age group between 18 and 45 years as per a liberalized and accelerated strategy. During the surge of COVID19, aviation community has risen to the occasion to provide unhindered services for the movement of people in need and the essential cargo (critical medical cargo like vaccines, medicines, Oxygen Concentrators, etc.). In this regard, Secretary (CA) has sent a D.O letter dated 27th April, 2021 to all the State Governments with a request to consider the personnel involved in aviation and related services as a priority group under vaccination program. Considering the competing priorities at State level and to avoid any delay in coverage of aviation community, it has been decided by the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) to issue enabling Guidelines to facilitate the vaccination program in a fast and efficient manner.

- 1) All players in Civil Aviation Sector would be advised to cover their personnel under the ongoing vaccination program. In this regard, DGCA/MoCA to issue an advisory/appeal.
- 2) The organizations which have already made arrangements with Government/Private service providers for the vaccination to their employees may continue to do so.
- 3) To facilitate expeditious vaccination for the personnel involved in aviation or related services (including the contractual, casual, etc.) a dedicated vaccination facility to be established by the Airport Operators in their respective airports.
- 4) The Airport Operator should immediately contact State Governments/Private Service Providers (Hospitals), who are willing to set up Covid Vaccination Centers at Airports. It is very important to tie-up with the service providers to have a regular schedule for vaccination with certainty. These service providers should be compliant of the guidelines issued by MoHFW that includes registration in CoWIN, pre-registration of beneficiaries, management of Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI), etc.
- 5) There can be more than one service providers at any airport depending on number of personnel working in the aviation eco-system.
- 6) Required facilities like setting up of vaccination counters, segregated waiting area (pre-as well as post-vaccination) to be established by the Airport Operators. Basic facilities for the personnel visiting (help desk, drinking water, ventilation, fans, wash rooms, etc.) to be arranged following COVID safety protocols.
- 7) The cost per vaccination dose can be decided by the Airport Operator with the service provider. These facilities would be available for all aviation sector stakeholders at the

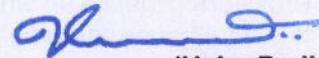
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same cost. All agencies working in the airports eco-system need to sponsor their personnel to avail the facilities as operators/service providers would not be dealing with individual cases. Online Payment mechanism to the service provider for vaccine doses administered for their respective personnel may be devised so that this issue doesn't pose any additional physical interface at Vaccination Centers.

- 8) The focus can be on major airports to tie up with Private Service Providers. For the smaller airports (where the numbers to get vaccinated are less and private players do not find it viable), the Airport Operators can approach the District/local Administration for extending the vaccination program. However, these airports are free to tie-up with the Private Service Providers, if available, to expeditiously organize the vaccination drive.
- 9) The facilities created by Airport Operator would be available for all the Civil Aviation Personnel in first phase and can be extended to the family members subsequently.
- 10) Considering the competing demand from various sub-groups of aviation, inter-se priority should be made to cover the ATC, crew of airlines (both cockpit and cabin), mission-critical and passenger facing staff on priority.
- 11) All Airport Operators are advised to designate a nodal officer (an alternative nodal officer may also be kept in readiness) for coordinating the efforts.
- 12) Chairman, AAI will hold regular meetings to review the progress and coordinate with the Ministry/DGCA to address issues/challenges. If there is an issue of vaccine availability, Ministry would take up at appropriate level for smooth supply.

This is the broad framework to facilitate expeditious vaccination to the civil aviation community in the country. Considering any impending local situation, above suggested guidelines may be contextualized and improved. However, all safety protocols/instructions issued by MoHFW/State Government Concerned/MoCA related to COVID19 must be followed.

This is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.



(Usha Padhee)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

To,

1. DG, DGCA
2. All Airport Operators with a request to bring this O.M to the notice of agencies working in their respective airports.

Copy to:-

1. Office of HMoSCA(I/C)
2. Secretary, MoCA
3. Secretary, MoH&FW.
4. Secretaries of State Governments/UTs in-charge of Civil Aviation.