

Bhutan: Advisory for Indian Nationals

1. The Royal Government of Bhutan has imposed two weeks' restrictions on all incoming visitors for tourism purposes with effect from 5 March 2020 on account of the outbreak of the first confirmed case of Coronavirus in Bhutan. This restriction for tourist visitors has been extended indefinitely until further notice.
2. Re-entry of all foreigners holding valid visa, work permits and other immigration permits travelling to Bhutan from any COVID-19 affected countries or if they have visited or transited through COVID-19 affected countries has been suspended by the Royal Government of Bhutan until further notice.
3. With effect from 6 am of 23 March 2020, all international border crossings have been closed until further notice with the following exceptions:-
 1. Bhutanese arriving at border crossings shall be allowed to enter the country subject to medical screening followed by a mandatory two-week quarantine at a designated facility.
 2. Foreigners will be allowed to exit Bhutan.
 3. Only authorized vehicles carrying essential items like food, medicines and fuel will be permitted to cross the border. All incoming persons will be medically screened and quarantined, where applicable.
4. All international regional conferences, fairs and seminars to be held in Bhutan have been postponed by the Government. All schools and educational institutions have been closed across the country as a preventive measure.
5. In light of the above, all Indian nationals are advised to **defer** their travel to Bhutan till the risks related to Coronavirus (n-COVID-19) are controlled and mitigated and the current restrictions on travel and at the international borders are relaxed by the Royal Government of Bhutan.
6. It is imperative to carefully read the travel advisories and FAQs issued by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (<https://www.mohfw.gov.in>), Ministry of External Affairs (<https://mea.gov.in/covid-19-updates.htm>) and the Bureau of Immigration (<https://boi.gov.in/>). The latest updates are also being posted on the website of the Embassy of India, Thimphu (<https://www.indembthimphu.gov.in/>).

MEA is maintaining a 24-hour COVID-19 Control Centre which can be contacted at:-

Ministry of External Affairs,	1800118797 (toll free)
South Block, New Delhi	+91-11-23012113
	+91-11-23014104
Helplines for queries related to COVID-19	+91-11-23017905
	+91-11-23018158 (Fax)
E-mail address:	E-mail address: covid19@mea.gov.in

7. The Embassy of India in Thimphu is fully functional and nodal officials may be contacted on telephone numbers +975-2-322162; +975-2-327048 and e-mail address at cons.thimphu@mea.gov.in.
8. All Yoga and Music Classes at the Nehru Wangchuck Cultural Centre of the Embassy of India, stand suspended till further notice.
9. Bhutanese nationals who are looking for information related to their return to Bhutan from abroad may like to peruse the latest travel advisory issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, RGOB at <https://www.mfa.gov.bt/?p=7435>. A form required to be filled in is available at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdm-GW3WpySREG5vDBIbM2DLXnSFIMJH5P7FSj9TKxwg8cVIQ/viewform?usp=send_form.
10. Please visit our website (<https://www.indembthimphu.gov.in/>.) and follow our social media handles i.e. Twitter Account (@IndiainBhutan) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/IndiainBhutan/>) for regular updates.
