

ANNEXURE I



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Health & Family Welfare Department – Vaccination for persons travelling abroad – instructions issued – orders issued

HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(F) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt)No.1155/2021/H&FWD Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 28/05/2021

Read 1 G.O.(Ms).No.85/2021/H&FWD dated 29.04.2021

2 G.O.(Ms).No.1102/2021/H&FWD dated 19.05.2021

3 G.O.(Rt).No.1114/2021/H&FWD dated 24.05.2021

ORDER

COVID-19 vaccination drive has entered Phase III from 1st May 2021 wherein all beneficiaries aged 18 years and above has to be vaccinated and as per the Government order read as 1st above, Government have decided to give free vaccinations to all citizens in the age group of 18-45 years. Further, as per the Government order 2nd read above Government have notified 32 categories as Front Line Workers for prioritization for COVID-19 vaccination in the age group of 18-45 years as the first lot. Further, as per the Government order 3rd paper read above, Government have additionally notified 11 categories as Front Line Workers for prioritization for COVID-19 vaccination in the age group of 18-45 years as the second lot which includes students / others going to foreign countries, for whom vaccine is compulsory.

2. Many countries have stipulated that a valid COVID vaccination certificate is mandatory for issuance of travel clearance and only those certificates with Passport number mentioned in it are accepted by the foreign countries during verification. As per the current settings in CoWIN portal, the details of ID proof which was used at the time of registration in CoWIN will be documented in the COVID vaccination certificate. It is seen that most of these beneficiaries have used aadhar / other IDs rather than Passport during the registration in CoWIN and during the verification process at the time of vaccination. Hence passport number is not documented in the COVID vaccination certificate which is issued by MOHFW through CoWIN portal. This has resulted in a peculiar situation wherein many persons are unable to get travel clearance for going abroad.

3. In case of Covishield, the certificate is not considered valid as many countries are demanding certificate with brand name as “Oxford Astrazeneca Vaccine”. In addition, as per the new schedule prescribed by Government of India, 2nd dose is to be taken at 12-16 weeks interval after first dose. This sudden change has derailed the travel plans for many as they had decided their travel based on the old schedule of 4 - 6 weeks. In all these cases, travel process will be initiated only on production of vaccination completion certificate. Many beneficiaries are at the risk of losing their job if they don't report to work place within the stipulated time frame. Further, most of the countries have not included Covaxin in the approved COVID vaccine list and hence those who have taken Covaxin are facing hindrance in getting travel clearance.

4. All these issues were brought into the notice of Government of India, to make provisions in CoWIN for permission to include passport details in CoWIN. It was also requested to give permission to the State Government to issue vaccination certificate with changes till provisions are made available in CoWIN. Further, it was requested to permit beneficiaries going abroad to take Covishield as per the previous schedule of 4 – 6 weeks and to make provisions in the CoWIN portal to document such vaccination given at 4 - 6 weeks. However, no orders/ letters are received from Government of India so far.

5. In the above circumstances, Government have pleased to issue the following directions:

1. Government of Kerala will issue certificate in the prescribed format (annexed to this Government order) wherein passport number will be recorded and vaccination certificate issued to a person who wishes to go get travel clearance and requires such certificates.
2. The District Medical Officer is authorised as the competent authority to issue such certificate of vaccination in the prescribed format.
3. Since WHO has already cleared Covishield, the same may be given as preference to people travelling abroad.
4. A person who has taken Covishield and wishes to get travel clearance will be eligible for 2nd dose of Covishield vaccine after 4 to 6 weeks of the previous schedule. Since currently COVID portal does not permit to administer the 2nd dose of Covishield within a period of less than 12 weeks, this is to be recorded separately by the districts.
5. Covishield vaccine will be provided from the vaccine procured by the State.
6. Districts are to verify any of the under-mentioned documents while providing vaccines in such instances to ensure that the vaccines are administered to eligible persons only

a. Live visa

- b. Admission document for students
 - c. Document of Job confirmation / work permit
7. Destination countries policy may also be checked whether vaccination is mandated.

(By order of the Governor)
RAJAN NAMDEV KHOBRADE
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

To:

The State Mission Director, National Health Mission, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Project Director, e-Health, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Director of Health Services, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Director of Medical Education, Thiruvananthapuram.

Chief Executive Officer, NORKA Roots

NORKA Department

All District Collectors

All District Medical Officers.

Information & Public Relations (Web & New Media) Department

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Date: 2021.05.28 15:19:46 IST
Reason: Approved

Section Officer

copy to :Special Secretary to Chief Secretary

PS to the Hon'ble Chief Minister

PS to the Hon'ble Minister(Health)

PA to principal Secretary (Health)