

## TRANSPORT BUBBLES

“Transport Bubbles” or “Air Bridges” are temporary arrangements between two countries aimed at restarting commercial passenger services when regular international flights are suspended as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. They are reciprocal in nature, meaning airlines from both countries enjoy similar benefits.

India has created transport bubbles with USA, France and Germany. In addition to Indian carriers, the carriers from these countries are now permitted to operate services between India and their respective countries.

### **A. Inbound flights**

Both Indian and foreign airlines while operating inbound flights into India can carry the following passengers:

- a) stranded Indian nationals, and
- b) foreigners (including diplomats and OCI card holders), who are eligible to enter India as per Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) guidelines dated 30.06.2020.

### **B. Outbound flights**

While operating outbound flights from India, both Indian and foreign airlines are permitted to carry the following passengers:

#### **a) Indian and US Carriers**

- i. Indian nationals who are permitted to travel abroad as per MHA guidelines dated 01.07.2020 and holding valid US visas.
- ii. US citizens, legal permanent residents, and foreign nationals holding valid US visas.

#### **b) Indian and French/German carriers**

- i. Indian nationals who are permitted to travel abroad as per MHA guidelines dated 01.07.2020 and destined for EU.
- ii. Seamen of foreign nationalities; Seamen of Indian origin would be allowed subject to clearance from the Ministry of Shipping.
- iii. Stranded EU nationals/residents, foreign nationals destined for EU and transiting through France or Germany (as applicable) or spouses of these persons, whether accompanying or otherwise.

Before making reservations, the passengers must confirm that they would be allowed entry into the destination country.