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Friday, 25th February  
 11:30 AM IST





## Regular international flights likely to resume from March 15: Govt sources

Regular international flights are likely to resume from March 15 and will follow the standard operating procedures effective at Indian airports for foreign arrivals and departure, government sources said. Given the consistent decline in Covid cases, a decision on resuming scheduled international flights has almost been arrived at by the Civil Aviation Ministry following consultation with the Health Ministry, they said. However, no official announcement has been made by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation so far. "Regular international flights are likely to resume from March 15. The guidelines for international arrivals, which came into effect from February 14, will be followed at airports for the passengers of these flights," an official source said.



Join us for the **SECOND webinar in South Korea Webinar Series 2022** by Korea Tourism Organization  
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**Monday, 28th February | 11:00 AM IST**

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## Jet Airways appoints Vipula Gunatilleka as its CFO

Jalan Kalrock consortium, the promoters of Jet Airways, have appointed Vipula Gunatilleka as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the airline. He has been tasked with reviving the grounded carrier. Gunatilleka, who till last month, was the CEO of SriLankan Airlines, will join Jet Airways from March 1, 2022 onwards. Considered as a "turnaround specialist" and an aviation expert, Gunatilleka had overseen "the most daunting task of leading SriLankan Airlines during the pandemic. Gunatilleka was head hunted by the board in 2018 to re-structure SriLankan Airlines and in less than two years after assuming the duties as the CEO, the airline recorded positive EBITDA and cash flow for 2019-20 notwithstanding the devastating effects of the terror attacks in April 2019 in Sri Lanka followed by the global pandemic in early 2020," a statement issued by Jet Airways said.



## India's first water taxi service inaugurated in Mumbai

The water taxi services connecting the twin cities, Mumbai and Navi Mumbai, first of its kind in India, was flagged off by Union Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal in the presence of Chief Minister Udhav Thackeray. The services will commence from the Domestic Cruise Terminal (DCT) and will connect the nearby locations at Nerul, Belapur, Elephanta island and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT). Addressing the gathering, Sonowal lauded the Mumbai Maritime Board and Central & State agencies for completion of the projects which bring benefits to the citizens, boost tourism and opens avenues for employment generation.



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## Business travel to change in new visa regime under India-UAE trade deal

Business travel between India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is set to change after the two countries agreed to a liberalised visa regime as part of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) signed last week. Commerce Secretary BVR Subrahmanyam said that the liberalised visa regime includes a three-year visa provision for intra-corporate transfers, a 90-day visa for business visitors, and a 90-days plus extendable visa contractual service suppliers. "As for visa liberalisation, there are three or four categories of people such as business visitors, contractual service providers, and intra-corporate transferees. There are provisions where the visa regime has either become more liberal than what they have currently or it freezes the current regime. That means that they can't go back once they have given the concession in the FTA," Subrahmanyam explained.



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## Dubai scraps rapid RT-PCR rules for Indian travellers

Dubai removed the requirements for Indian travellers to undergo rapid RTPCR at Indian airports before departing to UAE. An advisory issued by the Dubai Airport updated the travel requirements for passengers from India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan. The fresh advisory requires Indian nationals to produce a negative COVID-19 test certificate taken up to 48 hours before the scheduled departure of the flight, from an approved health service provider. The passengers will require to undergo a PCR test upon their arrival in Dubai.



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Tuesday 8th March 2022 | 3 PM IST




## Incentives for Indian travellers as Australia reopens borders

With Australia reopening its international borders to travellers vaccinated against Covid-19, Tourism Australia stated that it is "delighted to be welcoming back travellers from India". As an incentive to potential travellers, the island nation has announced a visa application charge waiver for tourists whose visa to Australia has either expired or is expiring between 20 March 2020 and 30 June 2022. "Our research has consistently shown that there is a huge pent-up demand for travel to Australia amongst Indian travellers. Through our campaign activities, engaging Public Relations (PR) and Advocacy initiatives, collaborations with Key Distribution Partners (KDPs) and airline partners, we are optimistic of converting this demand and seeing India return to growth in arrivals to Australia," said Nishant Kashikar, Country Manager (India and Gulf), Tourism Australia.

