

# Airports Authority of India

## Press Release

### **AAI's Chennai Airport makes elaborate arrangements for screening of passengers arriving from 'at risk' countries**

**New Delhi, 06<sup>th</sup> December 2021:** In compliance with the revised travel guidelines issued by Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu on reportage of a new covid variant of concern (Omicron), AAI's Chennai Airport made elaborate arrangements for screening passengers arriving from specified countries 'at-risk'.

An exclusive corridor has been created at T4 terminal to screen arriving passengers from countries at-risk. The facility can seat 500 passengers at a time as it is mandatory for passengers to wait till the Covid test results are out. Facility for registration for RT-PCR & Rapid PCR, sample collection & payment are provided at the same level. This is in addition to pre-booking and pre-pay facility extended to arrival passengers online to save time during screening process.

Exclusive space is earmarked for each facility/counter to ensure smooth movement inside the facility. The Rapid-PCR (Rs.3400/-). gives out the result within 30-45 minutes from the time of collection of samples, while RT-PCR (Rs.700) takes 5-6 hrs for providing results.

A host of passenger conveniences are also arranged at T4 terminal which includes reclining chairs, F& B outlets, baby feeding rooms and money exchange facility. Other amenities include entertainment screens, free Wi-Fi, free telephone and beverage vending machines. Information displays with latest guidelines are in place to sensitise arriving passengers. All the arrangements in the facility are in cognizance with the covid protocols in place

Facility for collection of random samples (2%) from travellers coming from countries excluding those enlisted as countries at-risk are also arranged at T3 arrival in co-ordination with TN Health Department. The test is done for free by state health department and the process is smooth and quick. Now, into the fifth day since the new guidelines are in place, it is heartening to know that passengers are satisfied with the arrangements made in quick time, in fact in less than 12 hours at T4 terminal.

This excerpt given below is from one of our esteemed passenger summaries the entire process:

“Deplaning, then immigration (many number of counters), then baggage claim (was pretty quick), and proceed for testing (walk 200m) is the procedure. Passenger needs to submit another hard copy of Air Siddha while you exit the arrival hall. Testing is by Hind Labs in a big hall with seating, food outlets & toilets. You can pre-book & prepay for the tests and it is a very smooth process. If you haven’t already, you can book at the counter or on your phone by scanning the QR code displayed all around. Cash payment is quick at the counter. I pre-booked the rapid test at Rs. 3400, since I had to take a connecting flight and got the result hard copy in 20 minutes, when the 30-45 minutes is the turnaround time. Thank you”.

An average of 700- 800 passengers is being tested at Chennai Airport every day from at-risk countries alone. The facilities provided for screening passengers at chennai airport are at par with the best in the country. The continuous efforts from the entire AAI’s Chennai Airport team dutifully supported by state government is ensuring smooth transit for every passenger at Chennai Airport despite the hard times.

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