

Bhutan: Advisory for Indian Nationals

1. Following report of a COVID-19 positive case in Gelephu, who had been in close contact with other individuals in different Dzongkhags (districts) of Bhutan, the Royal Government of Bhutan has announced a 'National Lockdown' with effect from 11 August 2020. During the lockdown period, no movement of people and vehicles within or beyond Dzongkhags will be allowed unless authorized by the Government. Community transmission has been detected in Bhutan with Phuentsholing declared as a 'Red Zone'.
2. Even after the lockdown is lifted by the Royal Government of Bhutan, only Bhutanese nationals will be permitted to return home through the land border or through special relief flights arranged by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan in coordination with Druk Air. Indian nationals such as diplomats, officials and other employees may be allowed to enter Bhutan with the prior approval of the Royal Government of Bhutan. All individuals permitted to enter Bhutan would be subject to COVID-19 quarantine protocols of the Ministry of Health, RGOB.
3. In the 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the risks related to Coronavirus (n-COVID-19) are controlled and mitigated and all restrictions on travel to Bhutan are withdrawn.
4. 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. Online Yoga and Music Classes are held everyday from Monday through Friday in place of the regular classes normally held at the Nehru Wangchuck Cultural Centre of the Embassy of India.
5. 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.
