

**Dear Valued Customer,**

We hope you; your families and your colleagues are in good health.

The second wave of coronavirus is spreading rapidly in parts of India that have led to overwhelming the health care system; a situation that every country is trying to avoid. India is now the global coronavirus hotspot, setting records for the world's highest number of daily cases. All major states are impacted, and India closed 3.79 lakh cases in a single day which is the highest ever spike by any country across the globe. On the other side, would like to through some light on the recovery tally which is over 15 million as of now in India. The good sign is indeed the mortality rates have started coming down in comparison to the number of cases infected.

DB Schenker in India is also challenged with many of our colleagues, family members and partners being impacted by this surge in the number of cases. We are continuing to reinforce the COVID - 19 protocols and support our customer's supply chain needs however if there are any inevitable delays kindly write to us via relevant escalation matrix for immediate support and assistance.

**India lockdown status with business impact:**

	Impact on Business							
	Full	Weekend	Curfew	Air Freight	Ocean Freight	Contract Logistics	Land Transportation	Custom Clearance
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>		✓		⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿
<b>Delhi</b>	✓			⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿
<b>Haryana</b>			✓	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿
<b>Jharkhand</b>	✓			⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿
<b>Karnataka</b>	✓			⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿
<b>Maharashtra</b>		✓	✓	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿
<b>Punjab</b>		✓	✓	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿
<b>Rajasthan</b>		✓		⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>		✓	✓	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿
<b>Telangana</b>			✓	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿
<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>			✓	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿
<b>West Bengal</b>				⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿	⦿

- – Shipment Delays are expected ● – Resource crunch along with Shipment Delays
- – Business operations are severely impacted

### State Level Status:

- **Chhattisgarh**
  - Lockdown in 14 districts of Chhattisgarh has been extended till 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 amid spike in COVID – 19 cases.
- **Delhi**
  - Lockdown has been extended till 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 (0500 hours)
  - Essential Services would continue like medical, public transport, media, transportation, banks, groceries, cold storage, warehousing, manufacturing units, marriage, police, military, fire department, delivery of essential goods, funerals etc. are exempted from the lockdown.
- **Haryana**
  - Night Curfew has been announced from 2200 hours to 0500 hours till 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021 along with the imposition of section 144 CrPC has been announced throughout the state where no one can move in public places.
  - Essential Services would continue like medical, public transport, media, transportation, banks, groceries, cold storage, warehousing, manufacturing units, police, military, fire department, delivery of essential goods, funerals etc. are exempted from the curfew
- **Jharkhand**
  - Lockdown has been extended till 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021(0600 hours) due to the rising number of cases.
  - Central and State government offices, and the private sector, would be operating have been exempted from the lockdown, while other organisations and offices will remain shut, he added. Shops will open till 1400 hours and movement of people is allowed till 1500 hours.
- **Karnataka**
  - Lockdown has been announced from 2100 hours of 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 till May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
  - Essential Services like flights, administration, police, defense, banks, manufacturing, wholesale, retail, e-commerce, construction activity, cremation/marriage with restrictions, garment industry (50%) basic essential shops (0600 to 1000 hours) and no public transport is available.
- **Maharashtra**
  - Imposition of section 144 and Night Curfew where no one can move in public places without valid reasons till May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 and likely to extend further.
  - All the establishments, public places, activities, services shall remain closed unless exempted or in essential services.
  - Essential services include medical services including manufacturing and distribution units along with dealers, transport and supply chain, cold storage and warehousing services, public transport, transportation of goods, water and agricultural related activities, offices to function with 15% capacity, export and import of all commodities, e-commerce, all-cargo service, port and related activities, CHA/licensed multimodal transport operators associated with movement of vaccine/lifesaving drugs.
- **Punjab**

- Night Curfew has been announced from 1800 hours to 0500 hours on all days with weekend lockdown from 1800 hours (Friday) till 0500 hours (Monday)
- Essential Services would continue like medical, public transport, media, marriage/funerals with restrictions etc.
- **Rajasthan**
  - The state government has announced lockdown till 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 (0500 hours) and only essential services will open from 0600 to 1100 hours every.
  - Essential Services would continue like medical, public transport, banks (till 1400 hours), media, marriage/funerals with restrictions, groceries, transportation for essential services, frontline workers etc. are exempted.
- **Tamil Nadu**
  - Night Curfew from 2200 hours to 0400 hours along with Sunday lockdown until further orders.
  - Essential Services would continue like medical, good manufacturers and continuous process industries, private security, metro (skeleton model), e-commerce with exception of Sunday and IT&ITES companies are mandated to allow 50% of employees to work from home.
- **Telangana**
  - Night Curfew from 2100 hours to 0500 hours till 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021 which is likely to be extended.
  - Essential Services would continue like medical, Telecommunications, internet services, broadcasting and cable services, IT and IT-enabled services, Delivery of all goods through e-commerce, Cold storage and warehousing services, Production units or services which require continuous process, inter and intrastate transportation of essential goods and non-essential goods are allowed.
- **Uttar Pradesh**
  - Weekend curfew from Friday 2000 hours till Tuesday 0700 hours along with night curfew from 2000 hours to 0600 hours.
  - Essential Services would continue like medical, public transport with 50 % capacity, funeral, media, transportation, delivery of essential goods etc. are exempted from this.
- **West Bengal**
  - The government of West Bengal has reinforced the effective enforcement of mask, social distancing, COVID – 19 protocols, sanitization of workplaces once a week, staggering of work/shifts in shops, markets, industrial and commercial establishments, work from home for private establishments etc. to restrict the COVID – 19 cases surge.

### **Product Level Status**

- **Air Freight**
  - ✓ **Market Dynamics:**
    - Market demand to India remains upsurging due to low capacity with high demand for work from home equipment, eCommerce goods, COVID machinery (PPE kits, Masks, Allied machinery), and inventory stockpiling.
    - Many countries have restricted passenger movement to/from India due to an increasing number of COVID cases.
    - Globally share of cargo transported on freighters remains at about 56% which is even higher for India due to almost nil passenger/belly capacity.

- High cargo built up and backlogs from HKG, ORD/JFK, FRA, ICN, BRU,TPE and other major EU regions to India due to high demand and slow handling with limited workforce due to pandemic restrictions.
- ✓ **Airline updates:**
  - Air India flight cancellations to/from UK till the end of April due to pandemic and restrictions introduced by UK government putting India under red category.
  - Swiss airlines stopped all flights from Zurich to New Delhi indefinitely due to low Passenger demand and high operational costs
  - Chinese carriers- Sichuan Airlines and SF express stopped operations into India for the next 2 weeks however Sichuan airlines has announced that it will relook into continuing cargo operations.
  - Cathay Pacific airlines is still under discussion with the Indian aviation ministry to resolve the 'landing license' issue and restart full scheduled cargo operations, the current flight schedule remains volatile.
  - Air Canada stopped operations from India to Canada till the end of May'21.
  - UAE suspended all Passenger traffic from India till early May'21, however cargo operations will continue to operate by Emirates and Etihad airlines.
- ✓ **COVID impact on operations:**
  - Localized restrictions introduced by state governments and local bodies have restricted the workforce at airports, cargo operations have not been majorly impacted yet while customs officials, airport handlers and forwards working with coordinated efforts
  - Countries like Iran, Indonesia, UK, Kuwait, Canada, and USA have banned or highly restricted passenger travel from India, there is no major immediate impact on cargo operations from/to these countries however with lesser flights/no demand of passenger travelers the medium-term flight frequency may be downsized creating air cargo supply gap.
- **CFS Operations – (No Change)**
  - Resource shortage is expected in all CFS's around Mumbai as the labour is not available after 2000 hours. This will increase halting charges if trucks do not arrive well in advance
  - We are expected to see delays due to the increasing number of cases during the pandemic.
- **Contract Logistics –**
  - All sites remain active with no major impact other than the reduced workforce.
  - We have implemented staggered/shift operations to ensure smooth running of our warehouses in states where restrictions/curfew is imposed.
  - Strict restrictions are imposed during weekends/weekdays across multiple states which may result in operations working at a limited capacity. Apart from it, there are workers absenteeism which is on the rise and KPI's/deliverables are likely to be impacted.
- **Customs Clearance – (Minor Change)**
  - We anticipate delay's in customs clearance activities across all gateways due to an increase in COVID – 19 cases and reduced staff at customs.
  - All import and export-related activities are affected due to travel and social distancing restrictions at work.

- We will have delays in clearance activities due to curfew/lockdown, restrictions on the movement of people, public transport, essential services pass, restrictions on the workforce at the office etc.
- The customs have implemented the submission of documents through e-mail for specified items to minimize human contact. The priority for clearance shall be given to COVID-19 related products or equipments and vaccines etc.
- **Land Transportation (No Change)–**
  - We will be witnessing delays ranging from 24 – 48 hours due to more stringent inter-state border checks including some specific states imposing an RTPCR certificate mandatory for drivers to enable entry of trucks into their respective states.
  - In most states, transportation is exempted for essential goods with few states reintroduced e-pass system for emergency travels and colour coding for Maharashtra.
  - We are adapting our transport service offerings daily to the needs of our customers.
  - We encourage shippers to check the delivery possibility with the consignee to avoid cost for storage, return shipments & transit delays.
- **Ocean Freight – (No Change)**
  - There is volatility in Ocean Business after the “Suez Canal Block” situation and more disruptions are expected like blank sailing, equipment shortage, port omission & rate increases.
  - Currently, forecasting of 2-3 weeks is needed for import and export for timely bookings.
  - Carriers continue to restrict loadings as per the allocation and focus on the loading with higher freight.
  - 40ftc Equipment shortage with many carriers in the North West India Ports for Exports.
  - Import trade impacted with severe space and equipment challenge Ex Europe & APAC with a min waiting period of 3-4 weeks Ex EU and 2 weeks Ex APAC



### **India Country Overview:**

The number of cases in the last 24 hours has crossed 3,79,257+, pushing the total number of cases to over 18.30 million and the total death count to 2,04,000+. Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Delhi, and Andhra Pradesh etc. are already the worst affected states in India due to the spike of COVID – 19 cases.

Major countries like Hong Kong, United Kingdom, Dubai, Canada, Pakistan, New Zealand, Iran, Australia, Netherlands, Thailand, Italy etc have put India under the international travel ban due to the rising number of COVID – 19 cases. Apart from that, there are some countries like United States, Israel, Singapore, Maldives, and Germany that have issued various level advisories for traveling to and from India.

### **Bangladesh Overview**

The government has extended the lockdown by another week till 5th May 2021 to curb the second wave of coronavirus infections sweeping across the country. All public and private offices remained shuttered. However, this rule does not apply to air, sea, river, land ports and

their concerned offices and export-oriented company. All public transport services (roads, river, railway) is suspended and only emergency services remain operational. Now domestic airlines are operating along with shopping malls. Besides, the India-Bangladesh Land border has been closed due to high infection rate in India, but the goods movement is operational.

On the Air Freight side, Overall cargo movement at the airport has significantly dropped due to lockdown. All passenger flights are cancelled from 29th April to 5th May 2021. However, some passenger flights are operating under special consideration and more than a dozen carriers are operating Freighter and Charter flight ex DAC at this moment. Our customers are welcomed to place any sort of booking. Carriers have slightly reduced the rates due to less demand now.

In Ocean Freight current average berthing delay of 3-4 days is observed. Prime Mover movements from depot to port CY and vice versa are also getting impacted because of manpower/driver shortage during the lockdown.

At land transport, the availability of vehicles on the Bangladesh side of the border is affected due to lockdown across the country. Vehicle cost increased to +/-20%. On the other hand, 100% of customs officials are not attending office regularly. Also, Importers are not taking delivery immediately after Import clearance is done.

Bangladesh has registered 2,955 fresh COVID - 19 cases and 77 death in the last 24 hours until Sunday, taking the tally total to 754,614 cases and the number of deaths to 11,305.



#### **Global update:**

Please refer to the [global COVID updates on the corporate website.](#)

Feel free to contact us at [marketing.india@dbschenker.com](mailto:marketing.india@dbschenker.com) for any kind of support. Let us maintain social distancing but we can continue to remain digitally close. Wishing you a safe & healthy period.

#### **Relevant Contact for the news:**

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