

**Office of the President  
of the Philippines  
Malacañang**

**MEMORANDUM FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

FOR : **THE CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS**  
Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging  
Infectious Diseases (IATF)

SUBJECT : **IMPOSITION OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS ON TRAVELERS  
FROM PAKISTAN, NEPAL, SRI LANKA, AND BANGLADESH  
TO PREVENT THE ENTRY OF THE SARS-COV-2 B.1.617  
VARIANT FIRST REPORTED IN INDIA**

DATE : **MAY 05 2021**

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With reference to the joint recommendation of the Department of Health and the Department of Foreign Affairs dated 01 May 2021, relative to the SARS-COV-2 B.1.617 Variant, as well as IATF Resolution No. 112 (s. 2021) dated 27 April 2021 imposing restrictions on travelers from India, this Office hereby **directs** all relevant agencies to implement the following:

- A. All passengers coming from or who have been to **Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka** within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines shall be prohibited from entering the country effective 0001H of 07 May 2021 Manila time until 2359H 14 May 2021.
- B. Effective immediately, all passengers coming from or who have been to Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh, within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, arriving before 0001H of 07 May 2021 Manila time, shall not be prohibited from entering the Philippines, but shall be required to undergo an absolute facility-based fourteen (14)-day quarantine period notwithstanding a negative Reverse Transcription-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) result.
- C. Filipinos and foreign passengers merely transiting through India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh shall be subject to the following rules:
  1. All passengers, whether Filipinos or foreigners, merely transiting through these countries shall not be deemed as having come from or having been to such country, provided that they stayed in the airport the whole time and were not cleared for entry into these countries by their immigration authorities; and
  2. Upon arrival in the Philippines, passengers covered by the immediately preceding paragraph need not complete a full 14-day facility-based quarantine, but shall comply with existing testing and quarantine protocols of the national government.
- D. All specimens from travelers coming from India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh that turn positive upon testing in the Philippines shall undergo Whole Genome Sequencing. All close contacts must undergo facility-based quarantine for fourteen (14) days, and contact tracing shall expand up to the third generation contacts.

Existing prohibitions and procedures on entry generally applicable to arriving passengers, insofar as consistent with the foregoing, shall continue to be implemented.

The IATF may provide rules and regulations to implement this and related directives, which may include reasonable exceptions to the entry restrictions and protocols imposed by this Office in relation to the SARS-COV-2 B.1.617 Variant.

For strict compliance.

By authority of the President:

  
SALVADOR C. MEDIALDEA

