

Ebola scare: 10,194 passengers screened at airports since 10 August

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Since its inception on August 10, 2014, 10,194 health cards of passengers from Ebola Virus Disease affected countries have been returned by the Immigration Department (151 on August 10; 497 on August 11 and 1034 on August 12; 1407 on August 13; 2146 on August 14; 2441 on August 15; 1531 on August 16 and 1987 on August 17) to the Airport health officers in Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Trivandrum, Kolkata, and Kochi. All these passengers have been screened at the concerned airports.

The samples of two Nigerian nationals (aged 4 and 37) admitted on August 17th to Dr RML Hospital have tested negative. The Indian national admitted to Bhilai Hospital earlier has also tested negative in tests done at NCDC. The 79-year-old Nigerian national continues to be under observation at Dr RML Hospital. His test reports are awaited.

The Quarantine cum Isolation Health Facility at the Delhi Airport has been made functional and all suspect cases detected at the Delhi Airport would be admitted to this facility. Since yesterday evening, 5 citizens of Indian origin aged 38 (M), 38(F), 7(M), 2 (F) and 31(F) have been admitted to this facility. All of them have been found negative for EVD in tests done at NCDC.

The Integrated Disease Surveillance Program (IDSP) is tracking such passengers, the details of which are provided to them by the Airport Health Organization. Today, 90 passengers were enrolled for follow-up tests in their respective States through State IDSP units. As on date, a cumulative number of 267 passengers are being tracked. Most of them are in the States of Maharashtra, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu.

The control room in the ministry of health and family welfare has received 557 calls since its inception on August 9th and only 17 calls were received in the past 24 hours.

WHO has reported a total of 2127 cases and 1145 deaths (as on 13th August 2014) due to Ebola Disease from affected countries.