Vande Bharat Mission (VBM) has been launched by Government of India to evacuate Indian nationals from countries where there are large numbers of stranded Indians. The current schedule of VBM flights, does not include Finland or any other Nordic country until 3 June.

Stranded Indians in Finland and Estonia are requested kindly note the following:

a) Ongoing evacuations under the "Vande Bharat Mission (VBM)" are from countries where there are large number of Indians, many times more than in Finland and Estonia.

b) As domestic flights are not operational in India, each VBM flight is carrying nearly 230-330 passengers all of whom are returning to one city only, (e.g. Kochi, Lucknow, Bengaluru, Hyderabad etc.).

c) In Finland and Estonia, total number of persons who registered for return to India is presently less than 300. Their final destinations are 15 different cities in India. Given this distributed data, it is not possible to operate an evacuation flight to Delhi (as there are no domestic flight connections in India).

d) Flights under VBM are operated by Air India, as commercial flights - passengers are expected to pay for flight ticket as per rates determined by Air India.

e) Those returning to India through VBM have to undergo compulsory 14-day quarantine at their first point of disembarkation in India, in a paid facility. Rates of quarantine facilities/hotels are determined by the respective State Governments.

f) Any other commercial flight operators, offering flight tickets to India, will be subject to Government of India’s regulations under which international commercial flights and entry of passengers from EU countries are suspended as of today.

g) OCI Card holders: At the moment OCI Card holders are not allowed to enter India. Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, will issue an advisory when these restrictions would be lifted.

h) Embassy will continue to facilitate extension of visas/residence permits for stranded Indians in Finland and Estonia. They can write to Shri Nirmal Chawdhary, First Secretary in the Embassy at hoc.helsinki@mea.gov.in

i) Indian nationals who want to register their details for returning to India can do so at the links below:

Finland Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/IndiaInFinland/posts/2473866969380307
Estonia Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/IndiainEstonia/posts/2651190065124496
Embassy Website: https://www.indembhelsinki.gov.in/return-india.php

j) We understand that many stranded Indians face difficulties in an extended stay in Finland and Estonia, and are very keen to return to their homeland and rejoin their loved ones at such challenging times. We request all of you to kindly remain patient, continue your stay in these countries until it is possible to return to India.

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