17 more charter flights from India to return thousands of stranded Brits

Details of the flights are as follows:

- From Ahmedabad to London on 20, 22, 24, 26 April
- From Amritsar to London on 21, 23, 25 and 27 April
- From Bangalore (via Ahmedabad) to London on 23 April
- From Delhi to London on 21, 23, 25 and 27 April
- From Goa to London on 20, 22 and 24 April
- From Mumbai to London on 26 April

People who are most vulnerable will be prioritised for seats on the flights, which will bring the total number chartered by the UK Government from India to 38.

Given the number of people who have already registered for a flight, the majority of seats are likely to be allocated to people who are already on waitlists, having registered via the CTM website.

Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon, Minister of State for South Asia and the Commonwealth, said:

We know this is a difficult time for British travellers and there is great demand for these flights.

This is a huge and logistically-complex operation, and we are working tirelessly with the Indian Government and state authorities to help more British travellers get home.

People who have already registered for the flights do not need to take any further action at this stage. If they have secured a seat, they will be contacted directly by CTM with further information about their flight.

Those who wish to register for a flight but who have not already done should visit the <u>India travel advice page on GOV.UK</u> to do so.

The flights are expected to cost between £537 and £591.

The 21 UK Government charter flights that were announced previously, and are operating from 8-20 April, are expected to help over 5,000 British nationals return home.

Notes to editors:

1. The charter flights are for UK travellers who normally reside in the UK and their direct dependants. A number of seats will be reserved for

those deemed vulnerable.

- 2. To book flights and register their details, British nationals should use the city-specific webpages listed on the <u>Return to the UK page on GOV.UK</u>
- 3. Movement within India is currently very restricted. Those who are eligible to fly will be sent information on how to get to airports and flight itineraries directly when their seat is confirmed.
- 4. Details regarding luggage allowance, flight costs and carriers will be available on the booking portal.
- 5. The British High Commission continues to provide consular support to any British nationals who remain in India. Consular helpline numbers: New Delhi: +91 (11) 2419 2100; Chennai: +91 (44) 42192151; Goa: +91 (22) 6650 2222.