1958 stranded Gujaratis return home from 11 countries under Phase-1 of Vande Bharat Mission

Gandhinagar, Wednesday: Chief Minister of the state Mr. Vijay Rupani has expressed his whole hearted gratitude to Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi and Minister of External Affairs Mr. S.Jaishankar for initiating the Vande Bharat Mission to bring back stranded Indians from abroad amidst the crisis.

Providing details of the same, Secretary to CM, Mr.Ashwani Kumar said, “The Ministry of External Affairs initiated the Vande Bharat Mission from 7th May, 2020. A large number of Gujaratis including students, travellers and many others were stranded amidst the pandemic. The first batch of passengers came on 12th May wherein 135 Gujaratis returned from USA. The flights are managed by Air India and Air India Express. Around 1958 passengers which include 146 passengers from Kuwait, 332 from Philippines, 435 from the U.K, 48 from Malaysia, 38 from Indonesia, 217 from Australia, 73 from USA, 93 from Singapore, 102 from Belarus, 176 from Canada and 66 from France have returned to Gujarat.

Phase 2 of Vande Bharat Mission has been started from 16th May and will last till 13th June, 2020. Flights from the UAE (29th and 31st May ), one from Oman and Qatar (30th May), one from Kuwait (1st June) , 2 from the U.K (8th June) and 2 from the USA (9th June) will reach Gujarat.

A total of 1869 passengers which includes 486 passengers from the U.K, 638 from USA and 745 from Gulf countries will be brought back to Gujarat.

Around 30 thousand Indians have been successfully brought back through 158 special flights till 25th May, 2020 by the Ministry of External Affairs, GOI in co-operation with the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

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