

Airports, Ports and Integrated Check Post Health Organizations (APHOs/PHOs/ICP Health Units)

Brief Background

International spread of diseases and agents responsible for various diseases from one country to another is a well-established phenomenon. Accordingly, Health units were established at international airports and ports. These units functional under Indian Aircraft (Public Health) Rules, 1954 as well as India Port Health Rules, 1955. Health arrangement at points of entry of international traffic is a statutory requirement.

These organizations are functioning since more than 6 decades and have played a significant role in mitigation of risks due to a number of dangerous diseases like Yellow Fever, Ebola fever, Swine flu, SARS etc. The role played by these Organizations during the plague outbreak, DHF COVID-19 is enough evidence about the utility of the units in the overall interest of the country. In the past also the roles played by APHOs and PHOs in preventing international spread of Plague in 1994, SARS in 2003 is well known. Apart from this, the units are involved in keeping constant vigil towards preventing the introduction of yellow fever into the country which is a dangerous disease with high mortality and morbidity, presently prevalent in around 41 countries of African and South American continents and there is all likelihood of this disease being imported to India through mosquitoes and human traffic.

Consequent upon adoption of new International Health Regulations by 65th WHA, many specific functions are mandated for events related to All Hazards approach.

The **International Health Regulations 2005** are legally binding regulations (forming International Law) that aim to a) assist countries to work together to save lives and livelihoods endangered by the spread of diseases and other health risks, and b) avoid unnecessary interference with international trade and travel. The purpose and scope of IHR 2005 are to prevent, protect against, control and provide a public health response to the international spread of disease in ways that are commensurate with and restricted to public health risks, and which avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade. (Article 2, IHR 2005).

Presently, the health units are functioning only at 33 Points of Entry i.e., 19 airports, 11 ports and 3 Land Borders:

- A. Eleven major ports at Kandla, Tuticorin, Visakhapatnam, Kolkata, Marmagao, Cochin, Mumbai, Chennai, JNPT Sheva, New Mangalore Port, Paradip.
- B. Nineteen international airports at Kolkata, Tiruchy, Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Cochin, Calicut, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Thiruvanthapuram, Ahemdabad, Goa, Bhubaneshwar, Pune, Lucknow, Jaipur, Guwahati, Gaya, Amritsar.
- C. Three Integrated Check Post Health units at Land border of Amritsar, Agartala and Petrapole.

MAJOR FUNCTIONS OF AIRPORT HEALTH ORGANIZATION (APHO)

- Airport Quarantine work: The inspection of documents of international passengers referred by immigration staff for yellow fever disease at International airports and referral of suspect travellers to designated quarantine facility.
- Disinfection, disinsection and deratting of aircrafts including inspection and supervision of control measures.
- Supervision of sanitation, quality of drinking water supply, anti-mosquito and anti- rodent activities inside airports.
- Public health clearance of Dead bodies/human remains.
- Administration of yellow fever vaccine and issue of yellow fever vaccination certificate.
- Arrangements for the quarantine of yellow-fever suspects at designated quarantine facilities.
- To attend aircraft medical emergencies.
- Food inspection for VVIP.
- Inspection of food stuff, catering establishments inside the of airport under the FSS Act, 2006.
- Assistance in sampling of imported food items and forwarding the lab analysis report, as and when requested by custom authorities.
- Inspection and Licensing of eating establishments within the local limits of airports as designated officer under FSSA, 2006.
- Activities during Public Health Emergencies of International Concern (PHEIC) like passenger screening, isolation & quarantine, contact listing, aircraft disinsection, transportation, arranging logistics for various public health measures etc.
- To undertake effective surveillance activities on international travellers, aircrafts, cargos, conveyances, goods, postal parcels & human remains so as to prevent the spread of disease of international concern.
- To ensure a safe environment for travellers using point of entry facilities, including potable water supplies, eating establishments, flight catering facilities, public washrooms, appropriate solid and liquid waste disposal services and other potential risk areas.
- To co-ordinate with all other service providers and stake holders to ensure minimum core facilities requirement as per IHR, 2005.

The List containing Airport Health Organization and Airport Health Office is as under:

S.No	Name and Address	Telephone/Fax	E-mail address
1.	<u>APHO Kolkata:</u> Airport Health Officer Airport health organization NSCBI Airport, Kolkata-700052	033-25119370(Tel) 033-25119370(Fax)	aphokolkata[at]yahoo[dot]co[dot]in
2.	<u>APHO Tiruchy:</u> Airport Health Officer Airport Health Organization Tiruchy- 620007	0431-2340078(Tel) 0431-2340078(Fax)	aphotrichy2008[at]gmail[dot]com
3.	<u>APHO Mumbai:</u> Airport Health Officer incharge Airport Health Organization C.S.I. Airport, Sahar Mumbai-400099	022-28392429(Tel) 022-28392429(Fax)	mumbaiapho[at]gmail[dot]com
4.	<u>APHO Delhi:</u> Airport Health Officer Airport Health Organization New Building, Mahipal Pur, Near Radisson Blu Hotel, On Approach Road to T-3 Opp. Toll Barrier, New Delhi-110037	011-25652129(YF) 011-25655081(O) 011-25655079(Fax)	aphopalam[at]gmail[dot]com
5.	<u>APHO Chennai:</u> Airport Health Officer, Airport Health Organisation, Chennai Airport Chennai-600027	044-22560789(Tel) 044-22560788(Fax)	apho_chennai[at]yahoo[dot]in airportchennai27[at]gmail[dot]in
6.	<u>APHO Cochin:</u> Airport Health Officer Airport Health Organization Cochin International Airport Ltd. Nedumbassery, Cochin-683111	0484-2610255	aphocochin[at]gmail[dot]com
7.	<u>APHO Calicut:</u> Airport Health Officer, Airport Health Organization, Calicut International Airport, Calicut Airport P.O, Malappuram, Dist-673647	09447960221 07045180743 0483-2712221	calicutapho[at]gmail[dot]com
8.	<u>APHO Bangalore:</u> Regional office of Health & Family Welfare , Bangalore 2nd Floor 'F' Wing, Kendriya Sadan, Koramangla, Bangalore-560034	080-25537310 080-25537688(Tel) 080-25539249(Fax)	aphobng[at]yahoo[dot]com
9.	<u>APHO Hyderabad:</u> Regional office of Health & Family Welfare , Hyderabad 3rd Floor, B Block, Kendriya Sadan, Sultan Bazar, Hyderabad-500095	040-24656923(Tel) 040-24657923(Fax)	rohfwhyd[at]yahoo[dot]co[dot]in srdrohfw_hyd[at]nic[dot]in
10.	<u>APHO Thiruvanthapuram:</u> Regional office of Health & Family Welfare, Thiruvanthapuram, TC-14/2151(1), Meads Lane, Cantonment, Thiruvanthapuram- 695034	0471-2322710(Tel) 0471-2322710(Fax)	rohfwvm[at]kerala[dot]nic[dot]in
11.	<u>APHO Ahmedabad:</u> Regional office of Health & Family Welfare, Ahmedabad Anand Estate, Industrial Estate Corner, Bapu Nagar, Ahmedabad-380024	079-22740714(Tel) 079-22742447(Fax)	rhfw[dot]ahd[at]rediffmail[dot]com rhfw_62ahd[at]rediffmail[dot]com
12.	<u>APHO Goa:</u> Airport Health Office, Airport Health Organisation Goa, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, Port Health Organisation Goa, Marmugoa Harbour Area, Vasco Da Gama, Goa- 403803	0832-2520292(Tel)	aphogoa[at]gmail[dot]com apho[dot]goa-mohfw[at]gov[dot]in
13.	<u>APHO Bhubaneshwar:</u> Sr.RD Regional office for Health & Family Welfare BJ- 25,BJB Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751001	0674-2431708(Tel) 0674-2431904(Fax)	rohfwbbs[at]rediffmail[dot]com
14.	<u>APHO Pune:</u> Senior RD, Regional Office for Health & Family Welfare, G.P.R.A. Colony, 'U' Bldg., Type-IV Qtrs.No.3/4/5/6(above C.G.H.S Disp.) Near Akurdi Rly. Station/Kendriya Sadan, Akurdi, Pune – 4110044	020-27642271(Tel) 020-27642273(Fax)	rhopune[at]gmail[dot]com
15.	<u>APHO Lucknow:</u> Sr. RD, Regional office of Health & Family Welfare, Kendriya	055-2325268(Tel) 0522- 2325268(Fax)	srrdlko[at]yahoo[dot]com

	Bhawan, 9th Floor, Hall No.-3, Aliganj Lucknow- 226024		
16.	<u>APHO Jaipur</u> : Sr. RD, Regional office of Health & Family Welfare, Kendriya Sadan, Block -B, 2nd Floor, Sector-10, Vidhayadhar Nagar, Jaipur -302023	0141- 2236845(Tel) 0141- 2236818(Fax)	rdrhojp-rj[at]nic[dot]in
17.	<u>APHO Guwahati</u> : RD, Regional office of Health & Family Welfare, Six Mile , Panjabari, Guwahati- 781037	0361-2338555(Tel) 0361-2330555(Fax)	pjgogoi[at]gmail[dot]com
18.	<u>APHO Gaya</u> : RD, Regional office of Health & Family Welfare 5th Floor, Indira Bhawan , Ram Charitra Singh path, Patna-800001	0612-2547677(Tel) 0612-2547711(Fax)	rhopatna[at]gmail[dot]com
19.	<u>APHO Amritsar</u> : Airport and Border Quarantine Health Officer, Airport and Border Quarantine, 7 – A, Court Road, Amritsar-143001	0183-2565337(Tel) 0183-2565337(Fax)	abqasr[at]gmail[dot]com

MAJOR FUNCTIONS AT INTEGRATED CHECK POST:

- Health screening and medical examination of the travellers and inspection of baggage, cargo, containers, lorry, train or other vehicle, goods, postal parcels, human remains and relevant documents, whenever necessary.
- Surveillance of International Passengers and Crew for yellow fever disease.
- Public health clearance of dead body/human remains.
- Public Health clearance if Death of Passenger takes place during journey.
- Medical Emergencies.
- Activities during Public Health Emergencies of International Concern (PHEIC) like passenger screening, isolation & quarantine, contact listing, aircraft disinsection, transportation, arranging logistics for various public health measures etc.
- Food Hygiene & Safety Duties Supervision of Sanitation, drinking water supply, anti-mosquito and anti-rodent work Training Activities VVIP food inspection.

The List containing Port Health Organization and Port Health Office is as under:

S.No	Name and Address	Telephone/Fax	E-mail address
1.	<i>ABQ Amritsar:</i> Airport and Border Quarantine Health Officer, Airport and Border Quarantine, 7 – A, Court Road, Amritsar-143001	0183-2565337(Tel) 0183-2565337(Fax)	abqasr[at]gmail[dot]com
2.	<i>ICP Agartala:</i> ICP Health Officer, ICP Health Organization Agartala. (Managed by RD Kolkata, Airport Health Officer, Airport Health Organization, NSCBI Airport, Kolkata-700052)	033-25119370(Tel)	aphokolkata[at]yahoo[dot]co[dot]in
3.	<i>ICP Petrapole:</i> ICP Health Officer, ICP Health Organization, Petrapole. (Managed by RD Kolkata, Port Health Officer Port Health Organization Marine House, Kolkata-700022.)	033-22230414 033-22230178(Tel) 033-22230904 (Fax) 033-22230435 (Fax)	phokolkata[at]rediffmail[dot]com drmkbag28[at]gmail[dot]com

MAJOR FUNCTIONS OF THE PORT HEALTH ORGANIZATION (PHO):

- Inspection of ship/vessels (including sanitation and issuance of Ship sanitation control and Ship sanitation control Exemption certificate), baggage, cargo, containers, goods, postal parcels and human remains from departing and arriving ships/vessels, so that they are maintained in such a condition that they are free of sources of infection or contamination, including vectors and reservoirs;
- Health screening and medical examination of travellers for yellow fever disease.
- Supervision and coordination of measures so that facilities used by travellers at points of entry are maintained in a sanitary condition and are kept free of sources of infection or contamination, including vectors and reservoirs;
- Responsible for the supervision of deratting, disinfection, disinsection or decontamination of baggage, cargo, containers, conveyances, goods, postal parcels and human remains or sanitary measures for persons, as appropriate under these Rules.
- Advise conveyance operators, as far in advance as possible, of their intent to apply control measures to a conveyance, and shall provide, where available, written information concerning the methods to be employed;
- Responsible for the supervision of the removal and safe disposal of any contaminated water or food, human or animal waste, waste water and any other contaminated matter from a conveyance;
- Take all practicable measures consistent with the Indian Port Health Rules, to monitor and control the discharge by ships of sewage, refuse, ballast water and other potentially disease-causing matter which might contaminate the waters of a port, river, canal, strait, lake or other international waterway;
- Responsible for supervision of service providers for services concerning travellers, baggage, cargo, containers, conveyances, goods, postal parcels and human remains at points of entry, including the conduct of inspections and medical examinations as necessary;
- Have effective contingency arrangements to deal with an unexpected PHEIC and the measures to deal with it to all the concerned agencies at the port;
- Responsible for coordinating additional health measures at the port as decided by the Central Government in the event of PHEIC like passenger screening, isolation & quarantine, contact listing, aircraft disinsection, transportation, arranging logistics for various public health measures etc.
 - . Implementation of Indian Port Health Rules.
 - . Implementation of the International Health Regulations, 2005.
 - . Implementation of the Merchant Shipping Act.
- Implementation of Food Safety and Standard Act,(FSSA)-2006 & Food Safety and Standards (Packing and labelling Regulations, (FSSR)-2011 by assisting the Customs department for clearance of imported food and acting as Local Health Authority for Food catering Units in Local Port Areas.

The List containing Port Health Organization and Port Health Office is as under:

S.No	Name and Address	Telephone/Fax	E-mail address
1.	<i>PHO Kandla:</i> Port Health Officer Port Health Organization Kandla Port, New Kandla Kutch District, Gujarat-370210	02836-270220(Tel) 02836-270189 (Fax)	phokandla[at]gmail[dot]com
2.	<i>PHO Tuticorin:</i> Port Health Officer Port Health Organization No. B-20, World Trade Avenue New Harbour, Tuticorin-628004 Tamil Nadu	0461-2353341(Tel) 0461-2353314(Fax)	photuticorin[at]gmail[dot]com
3.	<i>PHO Visakhapatnam:</i> Port Health Officer Port Health Organization Port Area, Visakhapatnam-35 Andhra Pradesh	0891-2565681(Tel) 0891-2562681(Fax)	phovizagport[at]yahoo[dot]com pho[dot]vizagport[at]gov[dot]in
4.	<i>PHO Kolkata:</i> Port Health Officer Port Health Organization, Marine House (Ground Floor), Hastings, Kolkata-700022	033-22230414(YFV) 033-22239618(YFV) 033-22230178 (Estt.) 033-22230904 033-22230435	phokolkata[at]rediffmail[dot]com pho[dot]kol-mohfw[at]gov[dot]in
5.	<i>PHO Marmagoa:</i> Port Health Officer Port Health Organisation Marmagoa Harbour, Goa-403803	0832-2520292 0832-2521886(Tel) 0832-2520292 (Fax)	phogoa[at]gmail[dot]com pho-mhfw[dot]goa[at]nic[dot]in
6.	<i>PHO Cochin:</i> Port Health Officer Port Health Organisation Willingdon Island Cochin-682009	0484-2666060(Tel) 0484-2666060 (Fax)	pho[dot]cochin-dghs[at]gov[dot]in drshyamini[at]gmail[dot]com
7.	<i>PHO Mumbai:</i> Port Health Officer Port Health Organisation Pattan Swasthya Bhawan 7, Mandalik Road, Mumbai-400001	022-22020027 022-22027101(Tel) 022-22020814(Fax)	porthealthmumbai[at]gmail[dot]com pho[dot]mum_mohfw[at]gov[dot]in
8.	<i>PHO Chennai:</i> Port Health Officer, Port Health Organisation, Rajaji Salai, Chennai-600001	044-25260038(Tel/Fax) 044-25225858 (Tel)	quarantinechennai[at]yahoo[dot]com pho[dot]chn-mohfw[at]gov[dot]in
9.	<i>JNPT Sheva:</i> Port Health Officer, Port Health Organisation, JNPT, P.O.C. Building, Sheva, Navi Mumbai-400707	022- 27241373(Tel) 022-27242592(Fax)	phonhevasheva[at]gmail[dot]com
10.	<i>New Mangalore Port:</i> Port Health Officer, Port Health Organisation, First Floor, Assistant Civil Engineer, Office Building (Wharf), New Mangalore Port, Panambur -575010	0824-2887532(Tel)	phomangalore[at]gmail[dot]com
11.	<i>PHO Paradip:</i> Port Health Officer, Port Health Organization, Paradip. (Managed by ROHFW, Bhubaneshwar, Sr. Regional Director, Regional Office for H & F.W., BJ-25, BJB Nagar, BHUBANESWAR-751014.)	0674-2431708 (Tel) 0674-2431904 (Fax)	rohfwbbs[at]rediffmail[dot]com