## High Commission of India Colombo \*\*\*

## PRESS RELEASE

## Samudra Setu: Repatriation of Indian nationals from Sri Lanka by INS Jalashwa

Continuing the ongoing efforts for repatriation of Indian nationals stranded in Sri Lanka an Indian Naval Ship INS Jalashwa will make a voyage to Tuticorin from Colombo Port on 01st June 2020. The ship will carry Indian nationals domiciled in The State of Tamil Nadu. The voyage will be next in the series of Samudra Setu, an exercise in which Indian Naval Ships have been deployed to bring back stranded Indians abroad under the Vande Bharat Mission.

2. The manifest for this voyage will be prepared on the basis of registrations received by the High Commission of India, Colombo. Priority will be given to compelling cases in distress, including migrant workers/labourers who have been laid off, short term visa holders faced with expiry of visa, people with medical emergency/ pregnant women/elderly, those required to return to India due to death of family member, and students as stated in the Standard Operating Procedure issued by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, for movement of Stranded Indian Nationals dated 05 May, 2020. (https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/4MHA%20SOPs%20Dt.%205.5.2020%20reg%20movement%20of%20Indian%20nationals%20stranded%20ottside%20the%20country%20and%20of%20specified%20persons%20to%20travel%20abroad.pdf)

3. Information regarding this voyage will be updated on the High Commission of India website. As the High Commission of India, Colombo has received a large number of repatriation requests from Indian nationals stranded in Sri Lanka, only some of the registered people would be accommodated on this voyage. Short-listed passengers for this voyage will be informed by the High Commission of India.

4. Passengers will bear the <u>cost of travel for this voyage as well as</u> for mandatory quarantine facilities on arrival in India. Information regarding quarantine facilities and Standard Operating Procedure followed by respective States/UT Governments is available on the High Commission of India website.

5. Those stranded Indian nationals who have not yet registered with the High Commission may kindly do so on the following link - <u>https://hcicolombo.gov.in/COVID\_helpline</u> We urge all stranded Indian nationals to be patient and follow the updates on High Commission's website and social media.

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Colombo 20-05-2020