

Dear Valued Customer,

Wishing you a Happy New Year 2022.

We hope you and your families along with your staff are in good health.

The last two years have been extremely challenging for our supply chain and logistics industry. We were challenged with a situation that was not witnessed in years of our supply chain experience.

The pandemic started in 2019, but we are entering into our third year with changing variants and impacts felt across the board. At this juncture, as we enter 2022, the contagious Omicron variant is spreading extensively but as per medical experts – and although still dangerous - the good news is that it may not be as severe as other variants.

The growing concerns around the pandemic and when it will become an endemic is unknown, however, based on historical outcomes of past pandemics such as the Spanish Flu, post 3rd/4th wave the virus would typically lose its impact and become less harmful.

- General:

DB Schenker in India will be activating Work from Home (WFH) with immediate effect to contain the contagious nature of the Omicron variant. All the staff who were able to execute their responsibilities in 2020/21 during wave1/wave 2 would be requested to work from home with access through email, mobile and teams. We are also activating a roster for staff who need to be working from our offices, warehouses, airports & seaports along with reinforcing COVID protocols (sanitization of offices at regular frequency, masks usage, common area sanitization and many other initiatives to protect our staff from getting infected).

- Overview of Key States in India:

- Delhi - Partial lockdown and Night curfew imposed
- Maharashtra- Partial lockdown and Night curfew imposed
- Karnataka- Night curfew imposed
- Haryana - Partial lockdown has been initiated
- Tamil Nadu- Covid Protocols initiated. Schools & Colleges shut

- Air Freight:

There was more than 5000+ flight cancellation (International & Domestic) across the world. This has indirectly impacted the supply chain along with the reduction in capacity (Domestic & International). We are monitoring the situation very closely. We continue to work with a widespread carrier base which includes block space agreement, hard block (guaranteed commitment of tonnage) and soft block to cater to our customer's business needs.

We are also glad to announce the re-commencement of our 2nd flight operations which we are operating from Bangalore, thereby allowing us more flexibility to manage temperature-controlled movements ex-South India. This flight will give a guaranteed capacity of 100 MT to MUC/RFD and 80 MT on the return leg from RFD/MUC to India. This flight operation will allow us to augment the current arrangement we have with regular carriers and provide our customers faster transit to EU/US both ways.

We would also see an increase in demand for Pharma exports/imports once again in the coming weeks with expanding in vaccination age bands and a spike in cases worldwide.



- **Ocean Freight**

No major changes in Ocean Freight operations as we continue to see some softness in demand due to year-end, however, demand is expected to peak given upcoming Chinese New Year celebrations in early Feb 2022. We expect product ramp-up in the next two weeks and an increase in demand for imports from the Far East in January 2022.

Ocean Freight continues to witness schedule reliability challenges & cancellations driven by demand /supply imbalance & congestions.

- **Other Topics**

o **Customs Clearance Import**

Delay expected due to additional re-enforcement of rosters at customs with an increasing number of cases in many gateways

o **Transportation**

Given the increasing cases and long holidays, some impact is expected with drivers who are coming back from hometowns who would in turn be subjected to further tests before deployment.

o **CFS Operations:**

General resource shortage possibility which would be affecting devanning of containers.

- **Bangladesh Overview**

The number of active COVID cases in Bangladesh is around 36909 with deaths in total till date being 28077

- **Global update:**

Please refer to the [global COVID updates on the corporate website.](#)



Feel free to contact us at marketing.india@dbschenker.com for any kind of support. Let us maintain social distancing but we can continue to remain digitally close.

Wishing you a safe & healthy period.

Relevant Contact for the news:

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