

Indian Mission's Support Amid COVID-19 in Israel

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The Indian Embassy in Israel has launched a unique initiative to reach out to the Indian communities in the country to provide essential consular services amid the restrictions on movement and gatherings due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Indian Mission's Outreach

The Indian embassy staff have been travelling to various parts of the country once a week so that **Indians and Israelis of Indian-origin looking for consular support do not face problems with urgently required documents.** The service seems to have created an excitement in the Indian community with many of them appreciating the personal touch which they feel is creating a strong bond.

The staff of the Indian mission have so far been to **Jerusalem and Beersheba** during the past two weeks and have made announcement that they will be in Haifa in the north and even in Israel's southernmost Red Sea coastal city of Eilat to meet and extend essential consular services to the Indian community. The services are being extended while following the government guidelines in view of COVID-19 pandemic.

The new initiative has brought much needed relief to the Indian students, caregivers and also Israelis of Indian-origin. The Indian mission's staff also went around the country providing masks and gloves to people in the community towards the beginning of the spread of the pandemic, assuring the community of all possible help. A **flight under the Vande Bharat Mission** scheme evacuated 115 Indians on May 25 and the embassy and Air India have made announcements of another being planned later this month.

[Israel has so far reported 74,430 cases of coronavirus and 546 deaths due to the disease, according to Israel Coronavirus Statistics Tracker].