

Travel Advisory in context of Ebola Disease Public Health Emergency of International Concern

In light of the reported outbreaks of Ebola Disease in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Uganda, the World Health Organization (WHO) on 17 May, 2026, under the International Health Regulations, 2005, determined it to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC).

The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), has officially declared the ongoing outbreak of Bundibugyo strain Ebola virus disease affecting the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda, a Public Health Emergency of Continental Security (PHECS).

WHO's IHR Emergency Committee on 22 May, 2026 has issued temporary recommendations on the epidemic of Ebola disease caused by Bundibugyo virus (BDBV), to strengthen disease surveillance at Points of Entry to "detect, assess, report and manage travellers with unexplained febrile illness arriving from areas with documented BDBV detection" while "discouraging travel to areas with documented BDBV detection".

Countries bordering Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda, including South Sudan, are assessed to be at high risk of disease transmission. Ebola disease is a viral haemorrhagic fever caused by infection with the Bundibugyo virus strain of Ebola Virus. It is a serious disease with a high mortality rate. No vaccines or specific treatments have been approved to prevent or treat Ebola disease caused by Bundibugyo virus.

India has not reported any cases of Ebola disease caused by infection with the Bundibugyo virus strain. No vaccines or specific treatments have been approved to prevent or treat Ebola disease caused by Bundibugyo virus.

In view of the evolving situation in Democratic Republic of the Congo and other affected countries, and in line with WHO's recommendations, Government of India advises all its citizens to avoid non-essential travel to Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda and South Sudan.