

PRESS RELEASE

Government of India launches *Aarogya Setu* – a mobile application to fight the spread of COVID-19 and flatten the curve

The Government of India today launched *Aarogya Setu*, a mobile application aimed to connect our health services closely with us, the people of India, in our collective fight against COVID-19. It is through public participation that we can defeat COVID-19 and this App is an important step in this direction. *Aarogya Setu* empowers people with better information on the potential risk of infection, self-assessment tools and contextual advice.

Aarogya Setu joins Digital India for the health and well-being of every Indian. The App will augment Gol's initiatives in proactively reaching out to and informing the users the potential risk of infection, best practices and relevant medical advisories pertaining to the containment of COVID-19 pandemic. The App has been developed by Gol through 'Public Private Partnership' under the guidance of the National Informatics Centre (NIC).

Aarogya Setu is available on both iOS and Android.

How does it work?

The user has to install the app, through an easy and intuitive process, and is requested to switch on their Bluetooth and set location sharing to "Always". The App detects other devices with *Aarogya Setu* installed that have come in the Bluetooth / GPS proximity of your phone and captures this information. In the unfortunate case of any of those recent contacts testing positive, the App calculates your risk of infection based on recency and proximity of your interaction and recommends suitable action. The App also has a Self-Assessment Test, that captures your current vulnerability to COVID-19 infection and provides contextual advice. The recommendations provided in the App are derived using cutting edge Bluetooth technology, algorithms and Artificial Intelligence and is based on inputs and best practices suggested by expert medical practitioners and epidemiologists

Gol will use the above information to proactively reach out to you with suitable information on medical intervention, if and when needed. *Aarogya Setu* is your bridge to receiving updates on what you should and should not be doing – through a combination of official updates and links to curated resources to keep you safe.

"This epidemic has to be stopped by intelligence and action. For that, we need to use technology to empower people. *Aarogya Setu* is the bridge that connects you, in this epidemic, to our health system. It is fast, it is efficient and its pan-India reach allows preventive action to reach every corner fast. It has been created with speed and quality by our brightest young engineers. By using *Aarogya Setu*, we look after each of us and our future." said Professor K. VijayRaghavan, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India.

Key features of *Aarogya Setu*

Aarogya Setu has privacy-first by design and as an essential element. The personal data collected by the App is encrypted using state-of-the-art technology and stays secure. All communication from the App, whether to another device or server, are secure and anonymized, and cannot be brute forced. The App has been thoroughly and rigorously tested for security vulnerabilities by leading academic and industry experts.

Personal data collected is only for tackling COVID-19 and for our fight against Pandemic.

Aarogya Setu is currently available in 11 languages. The App has highly scalable architecture and is ready for pan-India roll out from Day 1.

Why should I install *Aarogya Setu*?

Aarogya Setu is our common bridge to prevent the spread of the coronavirus pandemic in India. The App will help each one of us to stay informed with latest updates on the fight against COVID-19 and will enable GoI to plan initiatives in real-time based on precise information in assessing risk of spread of COVID-19 infection, and ensuring isolation where required. COVID-19 needs to be tackled using the power of information, and this digital solution enables all of us to stay a step ahead.

The App will be regularly updated with the latest features and information resources.

This App is a unique example of the nation's young talent coming together, pooling resources and efforts to respond to a global crisis. It is at once a bridge between public and private sectors, digital technology and health services delivery, and the energy of a young India to create a disease-free and healthy future for the nation.

With *Aarogya Setu*, let us take a step forward to protecting ourselves and our family & loved ones.

मैं सुरक्षित । हम सुरक्षित । भारत सुरक्षित ।