Press Communiqué: Evacuation of Mauritian Nationals in Wuhan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade (MFARIIT) confirms that twelve (12) Mauritian nationals (including one infant) have been air-lifted from Wuhan. They are presently on board a special flight HFM421 which took off at 09h 35 (China Standard Time) from Wuhan bound for Istres, France. They will be taken to a seaside holiday camp at Carry-le-Rouet, near Marseilles, where they will be kept in quarantine for fourteen (14) days. Thereafter, arrangements will be made for them to travel to Mauritius.

Two (2) of the fourteen Mauritian nationals who initially requested evacuation from Wuhan decided to stay back.

The twelve Mauritian nationals were transferred from their respective living quarters by transportation provided by their universities. They were first taken to the French Consulate in Wuhan from where they left in cortege to the airport. They underwent medical checks by both Chinese and French medical professionals as well as the required security checks before boarding the aircraft.

The officers of the Ministry and of the Mauritius Embassies in Beijing and in Paris monitored the whole process and maintained close communication with the Mauritian nationals being evacuated.

The Honourable Nandcoomar Bodha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, also spoke to one of the students to enquire on their conditions prior to boarding.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade wishes to acknowledge the precious assistance received from the Chinese, the French and the Indian Authorities. The Ministry continues to monitor the situation closely in consultation with the Ministry of Health and Wellness and with the Prime Minister’s Office.

MFARIIT

02 February 2020