OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Grant of some consular services on gratis basis to foreign nationals presently stranded in India due to travel restrictions in view of COVID-19 – regarding

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Ministry’s O.M. No.25022/24/2020-F.V/F.I dated 17.04.2020, on the above subject (Copy enclosed for ready reference).

2. The matter has been reconsidered in this Ministry. It has now been decided to extend the period of providing the following consular services by the office of Foreigners Regional Registration Officers (FRROs)/Foreigners Registration Officers (FROs) to foreign nationals who have been stranded in India because of spread of COVID-19 in many parts of the world and also due to travel restrictions imposed by the Indian authorities:-

"Regular Visa, e-visa or stay stipulation, of such foreign nationals whose visas have expired or would be expiring during the period from 01.02.2020 (Midnight) till the date on which prohibition on international air travel of passengers from India is lifted by the Government of India, would be extended on 'GRATIS' basis on submission of online application by the foreigners. Such extensions would be granted for a period up to 30 days from the date of lifting of prohibition on international air travel of passengers from India without levy of overstay penalty. Exit to such foreign nationals, if so requested by them, will also be granted on the same lines".

3. Bureau of Immigration is accordingly advised to convey the above instruction to all FRROs/ FROs/Immigration Check Posts.

4. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(Pratap Singh Rawat)
Under Secretary to the Government of India

Contd......
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare [Kind Attn: Shri Sanjeeva Kumar, Special Secretary], Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi – 110 108.

Bureau of Immigration (Kind Attn: Shri Rajeev Ranjan Verma, Additional Director), East Block, R.K. Puram, New Delhi.

Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary of Home Department of all State Governments & Union Territory Administrations.

Ministry of External Affairs [Dr. Adarsh Swaiika, Joint Secretary (CPV)], Patiala House Annexe, New Delhi.

Directors General of Police (DGPs) of all States/ UTs.

Shri Dammur Ravi, Additional Secretary and Coordinator (COVID-19), Ministry of External Affairs.

Joint Secretary, Disaster Management Division, MHA, NDCC II Building, New Delhi.

y to:

PS to Hon’ble HM.
Sr. PPS to Home Secretary.
DDG (Media), MHA, North Block, New Delhi.
Cabinet Secretariat (Shri Pankaj Aggarwal, Joint Secretary).
Under Secretary (Immigration)/ Under Secretary (Foreigners)
All Section Officers, Visa Sections, Foreigners Division.

(Pratap Singh Rawat)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
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