



COVID – 19: DAILY UPDATE



TUESDAY, 31st MARCH, 2020



AHMEDABAD | BENGALURU | KOLKATA | NEW DELHI | MUMBAI





INTRODUCTION

During this extraordinary and unprecedented situation, it is significant for corporates, industries and even individuals to be updated and well informed about daily measures and actions which are being taken by the Government of India in view of COVID – 19.

AMLEGALS with its dedicated COVID – 19 desk is releasing update on notifications, circulars, press releases or any updates of Government of India towards on a daily basis.

With a view to be a helping hand for all the stakeholders, **AMLEGALS** has created this platform to provide the reader with all the updates and information.

EXTENSION OF VALIDITY OF DRIVING LICENCES AND REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways via Press Release ID: 1609455 dated 31.03.2020 released at 10:35 AM has *suo motu* granted following reliefs:

- Extension of validity of Driving Licences,
- Permits, and
- Vehicle Registration Certificates that expired since 01.02.2020 till 30.06.2020.

The Ministry has further elaborated that all the concerned documents under the Motor Vehicle Rules expired since 01.02.2020 to be treated as valid till 30.06.2020.

“The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has extended the validity of documents like driving licenses, permits and registration that expired since February 1. In an advisory to all states and Union Territories, the Ministry has asked them to treat such documents as valid till June 30.”



The aforesaid Press Release of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has come into force providing a relief to those facing difficulties and hardship in commuting to Government Transport Offices owing to complete lockdown and pandemic COVID-19 in the Country.

ONLINE PORTAL FOR HELPING FOREIGNERS STUCK IN INDIA

The Ministry of Tourism via Press Release ID: 1609489 dated 31.03.2020 released at 01:09PM in order to assist and help foreign tourists stuck in various parts of Country has come up with an online Portal titled 'Stranded in India'.

The said portal is an initiative by the Government of India to help the foreign tourists who got stuck in the Country far away from their home land during this pandemic COVID-19.

Following are the features of the aforesaid portal;

- It will act as a support network for those stuck in various parts of the Country.
- It will provide information related to COVID-19 helpline numbers, call-centres through which foreign tourists can reach out for help.
- It will also provide information regarding the Ministry of External Affairs control centres.
- Details of state-based/regional tourism support infrastructure will also be made available.
- Help Support section would assist them by allowing them to connect to concerned authorities.
- The portal can be accessed at www.strandedinindia.com.

"The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, with an aim to extend support to the foreign tourists who are stranded in India, has come up with a portal to disseminate information regarding the services that can be availed by foreign tourists who are stuck far away from their home land."



The Ministry of Tourism by coming up with this Portal has provided a platform through which the foreign tourists stuck in different parts of the Country can be traced and proper support can be provided to them.

This portal will also help the foreign tourists in being in touch with the concerned authorities and receive better treatment and hospitality during this pandemic COVID-19.

FULL STIPEND TO APPRENTICES DURING LOCKDOWN

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship via Press Release ID: 1609538 dated 31.03.2020 released at 03:21PM has directed all the establishments under both designated and optional trade to pay stipend in full to the apprentices as engaged with them.

Further, the Ministry has also directed that the reimbursement of stipend shall be provided by the Government to all the establishments in consonance with the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme guidelines during the Lockdown Period.

“As a part of the Government’s commitment to fight the spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and fully support the public, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) today notified all the establishments under designated and optional trade to pay full stipend to apprentices engaged with them. Additionally, reimbursement of stipend to establishments under National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) shall be paid by the Government for the lockdown period as per the NAPS guidelines.”



The Ministry by this major direction has kept the essence of Apprentices Act, 1961 and prescribed Rules under the Act and to boost up the morale of young people and empower them. The Ministry has itself taken into consideration that;

“Apprenticeship has been recognized as an effective way to empower young people to smoothly shift from school and college to work whilst at the same time improving links between industry and training institutions.”

GOVERNMENT HIKES MG-NREGS WAGES

The Ministry of Rural Development via Press Release ID: 1609462 dated 31.03.2020 released at 11:02 AM has revised the MG-NREGS wages with effect from 01.04.2020 with average National Increase of Rs. 20.

Further, the Government of India has also released a fund of Rs. 4,431 Cr to various State and Union Territories to meet up the MG-NREGS wages and material arrears.

“GoI in close collaboration with State Governments has taken various initiatives. Mahatma Gandhi NREGS wages have been revised by Department of Rural Development, GoI with effect from 1st April, 2020. The average national increase is Rs 20. Focus of Mahatma Gandhi NREGS may be on individual beneficiary-oriented works which directly benefit SC, ST and women headed households as well as small & marginal farmers and other poor households.”

The hike in wages of MG-NREGS in wake of COVID-19, and release of funds to clear the arrears of MG-NREGS wages will help the small & Marginal households during the pandemic COVID-19.



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“Correct Knowledge & Legal Strategy matters the most in law.”

ABOUT US

AMLEGALS is a multi-specialised law firm. We would love to hear your views, queries, feedback and comments on covid19@amlegals.com | rohit.lalwani@amlegals.com.

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