

Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi  
Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Subject:** Grant of some consular services on gratis basis to foreign nationals presently stranded in India due to travel restrictions in view of COVID-19.

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The undersigned is directed to refer to this Ministry's O.M. of even no. dated 28.3.2020 on the subject cited above (**copy enclosed**) and Para 1(i) of Ministry of Home Affairs "Consolidated Revised Guidelines on the measures to be taken by Ministries/ Departments of Government of India, State/ UT Governments and State/ UT authorities for containment of COVID-19 in the country" issued vide Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 15.4.2020.

2. After considering the matter, it has been decided to extend the period of providing the following consular services by the Office of Foreigners Regional Registration Officers/ Foreigners Registration Officers to foreign nationals, presently stranded in India, in the following manner:

"Regular visa, e-visa or stay stipulation, of such 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 and whose visas have expired or would be expiring during the period from 1.2.2020 (Midnight) to 3.5.2020 (Midnight) would be extended till midnight of 03.05.2020 on 'GRATIS' basis, after making online application by the foreigner. Exit to such foreign nationals, if so requested by them during this period, will also be granted to them upto 14 days beyond 03.05.2020 i.e. 17.05.2020 without levy of overstay penalty."

*Wje*

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3. Bureau of Immigration is accordingly advised to convey the above instructions to all FRROs/FROs/Immigration Check Posts.
4. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

*Wje*  
17/4/2020  
(Manoj Kumar Jha)  
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India  
Tel: 23070168