

## NATIONAL RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

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NRAI/26-1

13 July 2020

ANURAG KATRIAR Executive Director & CEO deGustibus Hospitality Pvt. Ltd. President

KABIR SURI Co-Founder & Director Azure Hospitality Pvt. Ltd. Vice President

PRATIK POTA CEO Jubilant FoodWorks Ltd. Hony. Secretary

NITIN SALUJA Founder Chaayos Sunshine Teahouse Pvt. Ltd. Hony. Jt. Secretary

## MANPREET SINGH Director K S Hotels Pvt. Ltd.

K S Hotels Pvt. Ltd. Hony. Treasurer

PRAKUL KUMAR Secretary General To, Shri Gyanesh Bharti, IAS Commissioner South Delhi Municipal Corporation Dr. S.P.M. Civic Centre Minto Road New Delhi – 110002 Email: commissioner-sdmc@mcd.gov.in

## APPEAL FOR IMMEDIATE RELIEF TO RESTAURANT INDUSTRY IN VIEW OF THE CORONA VIRUS

Dear Sir,

1. Greetings from the National Restaurant Association of India. We would firstly like to thank you for granting us time for the meeting today. Sir, the industry is going through its worst ever crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent closures. For customer sentiment to return anywhere near normal will take another at least 8 months to a year after lockdown.

2. We therefore seek your urgent assistance, and would like to put up the following points for your consideration please:

(a) The Health Trade license annual fee has been hiked this year by SDMC which is a major concern. Under the present circumstances, we request that the fee should not be hiked and should be rolled back to last year's tariff as it will badly hit the cash flows. In fact, due to lockdown the annual fee should be charged for only three quarters instead of the full year. Attached please find examples of the fee charged for previous and current year.

(b) Majority of Restaurants have still not opened till date. Therefore, submission of documents for renewals should not be asked to be submitted along with the renewal fees for 2020-21.

(c) The timeline to apply for renewal is till 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020. We request that this should be extended till 30<sup>th</sup> September as many restaurants have still not become operational and do not have staff to file for the renewal.

4<sup>th</sup>Floor, Phase-II, PHD House, 4/2 Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi - 110 016. Ph: +91 11 4100 0967 I E: info@nrai.org I W: www.nrai.org



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(d) Automatic approval/renewal should be given by health authorities on applying online by restaurants for this financial year. Licenses not to be linked to other clearances/NOCs for current FY due to COVID.

(e) Service of food and beverage in open areas, balconies, verandahs to be allowed. This is being done globally as well as in neighbouring states for social distancing and safety of customers and staff. Policy for the same had already been drafted prior to lockdown. Approval and implementation of the policy may please be expedited.

3. We again humbly request you for your kind consideration and favourable action on the above suggestions. We reiterate that in this unprecedented situation, these are critical requirements for the immediate survival and subsequent revival of the restaurant industry.

Thanking You,

Sincerely,

Prakul Kumar Secretary General For National Restaurant Association of India Authorised Signatory Email - <u>prakul.kumar@nrai.org</u> Tel - 011-41000967 Mob – 8860640879

Encl: As stated.