

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. Hony. Treasurer

PRAKUL KUMAR Secretary General

NATIONAL RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

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NRAI / 26-1

19 June 2020

To, Ms. Leena Nandan Secretary Department of Consumer Affairs Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Krishi Bhavan New Delhi – 110001 Email: <u>Secy-ca@nic.in</u>

> FIXATION OF PRICES FOR NITRILE GLOVES AMID COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Dear Ma'am,

1. Greetings from the National Restaurant Association of India. NRAI is the Indian Restaurant Industry's leading Association. Founded in 1982 and headquartered in Delhi, we are the voice of the restaurant industry representing the interests of 5,00,000+ restaurants pan India. The restaurant industry, with an annual turnover of ~ INR 4 Lakh Crore is the third largest after retail and insurance in the service segment, providing direct employment to over 7 million Indians.

2. We write to you on the above captioned subject, and would like to bring to your kind attention issues with respect to price hikes for nitrile gloves. Nitrile gloves are a very important component to help fight against the Corona pandemic. These gloves are extensively used in the restaurant industry and by lakhs of street food vendors to maintain the safety and hygiene for cooked food. Hence these are as important as face masks and hand sanitizers to fight against COVID-19.

3. However, because of the increase in demand, there has been an exorbitant increase in pricing of the nitrile gloves across the country as mentioned in the following table:

S. No.	Vendor	Price per glove pair prior to COVID19	Price during COVID19	Remarks
1	Vendor 1	Rs.1.80	Rs.4.75	PAN India delivered pricing. GST extra. Rates might get revised further based on next shipment arrival in India.
2	Vendor 2	Rs.1.80	Rs. 5.25	Pan India delivered pricing. GST extra
3	Vendor 3	Rs.1.80	Rs. 6	Ex-factory rate, Freight and GST extra
4	Vendor 4	Rs.1.80	Rs.5.5	Pan India delivered pricing. GST extra
5	Vendor 5	Rs.1.80	Rs.7.25	Pan India delivered pricing. GST extra

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4. The above increase will further impact the restaurant industry, which is fighting for its mere survival in these tough times. The prices are expected to rise further. These gloves are critical for safe operations and will be required by everyone in the country to ensure their safety. Due to this unprecedented increase in costs, it is also clear that the restaurant industry will not be able to bear this cost impact.

5. We therefore request that the price for these nitrile gloves be fixed under provisions of the Essential Commodities Act – as was done by your department in the case of face masks and hand sanitizers. This will help not only the industry, but all citizens of the country in combating the pandemic.

6. In view of the above, we humbly request you for your kind consideration and favourable action on our suggestion for fixing the price of nitrile gloves during the ongoing pandemic. We reiterate that in this unprecedented situation, this will be a huge help in 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