



# NATIONAL RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

NRAI/26-1

26 June 2020

To  
The Honourable Chief Minister  
Karnataka

Subject: Urgent plea for your intervention

Dear Sir,

This is an urgent plea requesting for your intervention in matters relating to the state excise department. We have as the largest representatives of the restaurant industry, reached out to various officers, commissioners and secretaries over the past two months, requesting a rationalisation of the excise dues, but sadly have not received any positive or helpful assistance.

Our ability to utilise our excise licenses was completely hampered from March 2020 owing to the COVID lockdown, and subsequently the inability to open or operate at any level of normalcy. To then expect us to pay license renewal fees, that have not factored in months lost, nor the fact that selling liquor at MRP post lockdown is detrimental to our businesses is putting us in further hardship.

Many of us just do not possess the capital or liquidity to renew and continue the use of an excise license which has been rendered ineffective for months. To then be pressured to pay the 2020-2021 fee by the end of June, is unjust and debilitating for our business.

We humbly request for your urgent help on this matter, **and direct the excise department to defer the collection of the excise fee by at least four months to October, and limit the amount to the pro-rated sum till June 2021.**

This is the only way we will be able to save thousands of small businesses in the state that have no cash left, and find themselves deeper in debt, and with no ability to support or pay their staff and families.

You are now our very last hope within the government structure to correct this wrong for a large industry that supports lakhs of people in the state.

Look forward to your positive reply.

Sincerely,

Manu Chandra  
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NRAI  
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