

## **Frequently asked Questions for Indian Nationals in South Germany as on 27.05.2020**

### **Medical:**

1. I am afraid that I have symptoms of COVID-19. I have called the hotline. Since they speak only in German, I could not communicate with them. I am worried.

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, contact a local doctor (general practitioner) over the phone. Germany has set up COVID hotlines where you can call if advised by your local doctor. For details, please see <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/themen/coronavirus/ausbreitung-coronavirus-1730756> and [www.116117.de](http://www.116117.de). You can also call your medical insurance company and get more details. You may also seek assistance from Indian community associations at or near your location. If you are unable to get assistance, please call the Consulate General of India in Munich at +49-151-17662009.

2. What should be done if a coronavirus infection is suspected? What are the symptoms?

Persons who have had personal contact with someone confirmed as carrying COVID-19 should immediately, and irrespective of symptoms, contact their competent health office, get in touch with the doctor or call 116117 – and stay at home. A coronavirus infection causes flu-like symptoms such as dry cough, fever, a runny nose and fatigue. There have also been reports of difficulties breathing, an itchy throat, headaches, joint pains, nausea, diarrhoea and shivering.

### **Accommodation**

3. I am a student in Germany. I have completed my studies in Germany and want to go back to India. Since I have terminated my rental contract and the travel restriction in place, I have no place to stay. Can you arrange accommodation?

Please make alternative arrangements. The International Office and Studentenwerk of every university is accommodating the requests for extension of stay at student hostels. Also, please be in touch with the Indian Students Association of your university for further help. A list of

associations along with contact details has been posted on the Facebook page of the Embassy of India, Berlin.

4. I am a tourist or on a business trip. I got stuck and I cannot find an accommodation in the city where I am now staying. Can the Consulate help me?

As far as accommodation is concerned, please make alternative arrangements. Do reach out to the Indian associations in and around your place. A list of Indian associations along with contact details has been posted on the Facebook page Embassy of India Berlin.

5. My hotel is threatening to throw us out, what can we do?

Government of Bavaria and Government of Baden-Wurtemberg have advised Hotels to provide accommodation to foreign nationals stranded in South Germany. You can also refer to resources for travelers on <https://www.integrationsbeauftragte.de/ib-de/service/fragen-und-antworten/1731242-1731242?id=01-Intro-en>. However, If you require urgent consular assistance, please contact our consular helplines on +49-151-17662009 or email us at [cons.munich@mea.gov.in](mailto:cons.munich@mea.gov.in) You should ask your hotel to provide alternative accommodation, or get in touch with Indian community association near you.

### **How can I extend my Visa?**

6. I am a student in Munich and my visa is expiring. How can I extend my visa?

*Due to the spread of the disease COVID-19 by the corona virus, many countries refuse entry or make it dependent on medical statements on corona freedom. Numerous flight connections are cancelled or very strongly restricted. In addition, many immigration authorities in this country are only able to work to a limited extent. This circumstance naturally also has consequences for the citizens of your country staying here. Against this background, the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community has recommended certain procedural simplifications to the foreigners authorities in a letter.*

*Third-country nationals whose **national visa (D visa)** or other residence title expires should submit an application for the extension of their residence title to the foreigners authority responsible for them prior to its expiry. Upon submission of the application, the previous title is deemed to be valid*

until the decision of the aliens authority. Due to the current situation, the application can be submitted by e-mail. In doing so, the complete personal data (surname, maiden name, first names, spelling of names according to German law, date of birth, place and district of birth, sex, citizenship, passport number), the type of title as well as a possible file number of the foreigners authority must be stated. With a view to possible control situations, it is recommended to have the application for renewal printed out or otherwise available in addition to the expired title and your own passport/identity document.

German version:

Aufgrund der Ausbreitung der Erkrankung COVID-19 durch den Corona-Virus verweigern zahlreiche Staaten die Einreise bzw. machen diese von medizinischen Aussagen zur Corona-Freiheit abhängig. Zahlreiche Flugverbindungen sind abgesagt bzw. sehr stark eingeschränkt. Zudem sind viele Ausländerbehörden hierzulande nur noch eingeschränkt arbeitsfähig. Dieser Umstand hat selbstverständlich auch Auswirkungen auf die sich hier aufhaltenden Staatsangehörigen Ihres Landes. Das Bundesministerium des Innern, für Bau und Heimat hat den Ausländerbehörden vor diesem Hintergrund in einem Schreiben bestimmte Verfahrensvereinfachungen empfohlen.

Drittstaatsangehörige, deren nationales Visum (D-Visum) oder sonstiger Aufenthaltstitel abläuft, sollten vor dessen Ablauf bei der für sie zuständigen Ausländerbehörde einen Antrag auf Verlängerung ihres Aufenthaltstitels stellen. Bereits mit Antragstellung gilt der bisherige Titel bis zur Entscheidung der Ausländerbehörde als fortbestehend. Aufgrund der aktuellen Lage kann der Antrag per E-Mail gestellt werden. Dabei sind die vollständigen Personalien (Familiennamen, Geburtsname, Vornamen, Schreibweise der Namen nach deutschem Recht, Geburtsdatum, Geburtsort und -bezirk, Geschlecht, Staatsangehörigkeiten, Passnummer), die Art des Titels sowie ein etwaiges Aktenzeichen der Ausländerbehörde anzugeben. Mit Blick auf etwaige Kontrollsituationen empfiehlt es sich, neben dem abgelaufenen Titel und dem eigenen Pass-/Ausweispapier auch den Verlängerungsantrag ausgedruckt oder in anderer Form bereit zu halten.

7. My parents are on a visitor visa in Germany. Their stay of 90 days is about to end. How can I extend their visa?

Ministry for the Interior, Building and Community of the Federal Republic of Germany has enacted a regulation, which states that holders expiring

Schengen visas are temporarily exempted from the residence permit requirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic

<https://email.gov.in/service/home/~/?auth=co&loc=en&id=59825&part=2.2>

The regulation applies to foreigners who stayed in the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany in possession of a valid Schengen visa on 17 March 2020, or those who entered the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany with a valid Schengen visa between 17 March and 8 April 2020.

It is required that these persons were staying in the Federal Republic Germany when the regulation was enacted on 8 April 2020.

According to this regulation, these persons shall, from the date of expiry of their Schengen visa until 30 June 2020 be exempted from the residence requirement title.

Foreigners who are exempt from the requirement of a residence permit under these conditions are allowed to exercise a professional activity to which their Schengen visa entitles them until 30 June 2020.

8. I am a student at a German University. My spouse came to visit me on 7.03.2020 from India on a tourist visa, valid until 12.04.2020. Kindly let us know how to proceed in this case?

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9. Currently I am in Bavaria/Baden Württemberg on a business visit. I arrived here on 15.02.2020 and my return flight tickets are from 27.03.2020 from Frankfurt to Mumbai via Abu Dhabi. My visa is valid till 11.04.2020, but duration of stay has been given 42 days on Visa. Will it be a problem, if I postpone my journey?

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### **Flights:**

10. What is the Consulate General of India in Munich doing to set up evacuation flights?

As per circular No 4/1/2020-IR issued by Director General of Civil Aviation, all scheduled international commercial passenger services shall remain closed till 1830 hours GMT of 31.05.2020. Measures have been taken by Government of India, State/Union Territory Governments and

State/Union Territory Authorities for containment of COVID-19 epidemic in the country.

11. What is the likely timescale for evacuation flights to commence?

Government of India has taken a decision for facilitating return of Indian nationals stranded abroad on compelling grounds in a phased manner beginning from 07 May, 2020. For details, please see press release <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1620953>

The current lock down on international passenger flights is till 31.05.2020. A decision to restart the flights after this period remains to be taken.

The Consulate General of India Munich would keep Indian nationals updated on travel restrictions through our website as well as social media handles.

12. Will international flights resume on 01.06.2020 as per the restrictions imposed by the Government of India?

Government of India has arranged for repatriation flights from Germany. As per our information, details can be seen on website of Ministry of External Affairs <https://www.mea.gov.in/vande-bharat-mission-list-of-flights.htm>

You may also refer to the instructions issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs regarding movement of Indian nationals stranded outside the country <https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/MHAOrderDt24052020forspecificpersonstotravelabroad.pdf>

If you need to travel, register at: <https://forms.gle/DLLTQLczmzVjUwrDA>

As capacity of flights is limited, passengers will be selected on basis of compelling reasons by Embassy of India, Berlin.

We request you to await confirmation of reservation of flights from Embassy of India, Berlin and follow their website and social media handles regularly.

13. I am a student at a University in South Germany. My university lectures have been cancelled. I want to go to India.

There is a travel restriction to India in place till 31.05.2020. To contain and control the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of India has announced a full lock down in India. We appreciate your patience and suggest that you avoid non-essential travel.

14. I have booked a ticket for India on 03.04.2020. Can I travel to India on the particular date?

There is a travel restriction to India in place till 31.05.2020 and the Government of India has announced a full lock down in India. Keep on checking the social media handles of the Consulate General of India for regular updates on travel restrictions. Do not finalize or make flight bookings until restrictions for travel to India are lifted.

15. My father/mother is on a visitor visa and is staying with me. He/she has a scheduled operation in India. Can we travel to India?

There is a travel restriction to India in place till 31.05.2020 and the Government of India has announced a full lock down in India. Keep on checking the social media handles of the Consulate General of India for regular updates on travel restrictions. Do not finalize or make flight bookings until restrictions for travel to India are lifted. You may apply for an extension of visa. Please see the section on visa extensions for details.

16. I am a masters student at a German University. I would like to know are there any provisions for Indians students to travel back to India in this corona crisis? As the number of cases are largely increasing all over Germany, particularly in Baden Württemberg and also in the city of my residence, our parents are worried about the same and want us to come back to India. Please let us know when the flights will be resumed. Are there any emergency flights that can be arranged for us during these days and whether the flights would be operating from 04.05.2020 onwards.

There is a travel restriction to India in place till 31.05.2020 and the Government of India has announced a full lock down in India. Keep on checking the social media handles of the Consulate General of India for regular updates on travel restrictions. Do not finalize or make flight bookings until restrictions for travel to India are lifted. There are at present no emergency flights/no evacuation from Germany. At present, the effort of the Global community is to contain and control the COVID-19 pandemic. Indian nationals are requested to appreciate the unprecedented situation

17. I'm living in Munich for some time. My close family relative is terminally ill and the doctors in India have advised that she has a few days to weeks left. Kindly advise when would be possible to travel to India

We are sorry to hear of your family emergency. There is a travel restriction to India in place till 31.05.2020 and the Government of India has announced a full lock down in India. You would have to wait for the restrictions on flights to be lifted in order for you and family to fly back. It is important that you and your family remain safe and strong in such circumstances.

18. There is no information on available flights on airline websites for April and May 2020. What to do? Can we travel now?

There is a travel restriction to India in place till 31.05.2020 and the Government of India has announced a full lock down in India. Keep on checking the social media handles of the Consulate General of India for regular updates on travel restrictions. You can contact the airline for more information about your flight. However, it is advised not to finalize or make flight bookings until travel restrictions are lifted.

### **Quarantine:**

19. I have been staying in Munich for a year. I am pregnant and have a plan to travel to Bangalore in April for my delivery which is in June 2020. Could you please clarify below points: (i) Will I be quarantined in India for 14 days or self-quarantine at home due to my pregnancy. (ii) If flights are not available, will there be any airlift for which I can register in the coming days.



There is a travel restriction to India in place till 31.05.2020 and the Government of India has implemented a full lock down in India. Do follow the Consulate General of India, Munich website, Facebook page (India in Munich), twitter handle (@cgmunich) and updates from the Indian Bureau of Immigration. It is suggested that you should finalize any travel plans and flight bookings after confirmation of resumption of air travel to India. As per current advisories, you would be subjected to mandatory 14 day quarantine on your return to India, whenever the travel restrictions are eased. The decision on the place of quarantine would be taken by authorities in India.

### **Passports:**

20. My passport is expiring by the end of April 2020. I have filled out forms online and want to submit the documents personally.

The public dealings of the Consular Wing of the Consulate General of India have been suspended. Please send your queries to the email id: [cons.munich@mea.gov.in](mailto:cons.munich@mea.gov.in)

21. My passport application is with the Consulate General of India but I am yet to receive any feedback. When should I expect my passport to be re-issued?

Kindly note that the Consulate is working on limited staff due to coronavirus pandemic. We would do our best to expedite the consular services. If you have an emergency situation, do contact our helpline on +49-151-1766 2009.

### **Panic/Anxiety/Uncertainty:**

22. I am feeling alone/bored.

We would suggest that you may remain in close contact with the Indian Students Association in your university. A list of associations along with contact details has been posted on the Facebook page of the Embassy of India in Berlin <https://indianembassyberlin.gov.in>. You may continue to check the Social Media handles of the Embassy/Consulate for regular updates on travel restrictions.

### **Return of Long Term Visa Holder to Germany**

23. I am an Indian national currently in India. I hold a resident visa in Germany and want to return to my home. When are flights likely to resume?

There is a travel restriction to India in place till 31.05.2020 and the Government of India has announced a full lock down in India. Keep on checking the social media handles of the Consulate General of India for regular updates on travel restrictions. You can contact the airline for more information about your flight However, it is advised not to finalize or make flight bookings until travel restrictions are lifted. You may also get in touch with German Embassy/Consulates in India regarding any flight approved by the Director General of Civil Aviation.

24. Indians - can they travel to Germany now?

Non EU nationals who have a permanent residence or blue card can travel to Germany. However, there are currently no inbound or outbound flights to/from India. Due to the lockdown, we expect the travel ban to continue.

### **Return of German Nationals to Germany**

25. Queries related to German nationals leaving India

Please contact the German Embassy in India for more information.

### **My Problem Remains Unresolved**

26. I didn't get a response to my email I sent to the [cons.munich@mea.gov.in](mailto:cons.munich@mea.gov.in) inbox?

If you are not getting a reply from [cons.munich@mea.gov.in](mailto:cons.munich@mea.gov.in) or are not happy with the response, you can send a mail to the Consul General of India Email: [cg.munich@mea.gov.in](mailto:cg.munich@mea.gov.in). If you feel that your query has a larger question affecting welfare of all Indian nationals in Germany, you may write to the Embassy of India in Berlin at [mincons.berlin@mea.gov.in](mailto:mincons.berlin@mea.gov.in). If your issue still remains unresolved, you may contact the COVID19 Cell in Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi on the following:

Ministry of External Affairs

COVID-19 Control Room

1800118797 (toll free)

+91- 011- 23012113, +91- 011- 23014104, +91- 011- 23017905

Fax: +91- 011- 23018158

Email: [covid19@mea.gov.in](mailto:covid19@mea.gov.in)