



NOTIFICATION

6 March 2020

Tha(01)/2020/2136

The first confirmed case of COVID-19 in the country was detected on 5 March 2020. Consequently, given the rapidly evolving situation and significant risks posed by COVID-19 to the people and residents of Bhutan and with a view to mitigate risks and prevent the spread of the virus, the following Notification is issued for immediate and strict implementation by all relevant agencies.

- (i) Issuance of e-visa/e-permit to nationals from countries affected by COVID-19 or those persons that have visited or transited through COVID-19 affected countries stands suspended till further notice.
- (ii) Visa on arrival for eligible foreign nationals stands suspended till further notice.
- (iii) Issuance of new work permits to nationals from countries affected by COVID-19 or if such persons have visited or transited through COVID-19 affected countries stands suspended till further notice.
- (iv) Renewal of work permit for foreign workers who are already in the country shall be facilitated.
- (v) Re-entry of all foreigners holding valid visas, work permits and other immigration permits traveling to Bhutan from any of the COVID-19 affected countries or if they have visited or transited through COVID-19 affected countries stands suspended till further notice.
- (vi) Government clearance to host events such as car rallies, seminars, trade fairs and workshops in the country stands suspended till further notice.
- (vii) All mass gatherings must be deferred till further directives.

Issued for strict and immediate implementation.

Sonam Topgay
Home Secretary