



Embassy of India
Bahrain

PRESS RELEASE

The Embassy of India organised the Open House on 25 December 2020 between 10:00 hrs to 12:00 hrs, during which Ambassador Piyush Srivastava and the entire Consular team of the Embassy interacted with the Indian community members directly for redressing their urgent/non-routine consular and labour issues. Due to restrictions in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic, the Embassy has continued to hold the 'Open House' in virtual mode.

Ambassador briefed the community members about the positive developments and measures taken by both Governments for the welfare of the Indian community. Based on the feedback received from previous Virtual Open Houses, the Embassy took measures to expedite the delivery of various services including appointments, the schedules for which was slightly delayed due to Covid restrictions.

The Embassy has resumed providing the services of the volunteers to assist our people requiring consular services, for which we are thankful to Indian Community Relief Fund.

Ambassador Piyush Srivastava thanked the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain for various measures as well as cooperation extended to the Embassy for welfare of the Indian community. The local Government of Bahrain has announced reduction in Covid test fee from BHD 60 to BHD 40 which has brought relief to Indian nationals travelling back to Bahrain. A number of people have availed of the Amnesty extended by the Government of Bahrain. The Embassy has issued over 350 Short Validity Passports to enable Indian nationals regularise their stay in Bahrain, besides issuing Emergency Certificates to enable travel of those who wanted to travel back to India within Amnesty period. Ambassador urged to all concerned community members to avail of the Amnesty scheme which will come to an end on 31st December 2020.

Ambassador also encouraged Indian community to regularly follow Embassy's website and social media accounts for updates regarding pressing common issues such as Covid-19 related SOPs and travel related information, besides information on positive developments in India-Bahrain bilateral relations as well as economic and other developments in India. Ambassador particularly highlighted the recent instance of some fraudsters spoofing the Embassy's Emergency telephone no.+973-39418071 to illicit personal information and extort money from Indian nationals under various pretexts and advised the community members not to entertain such telephone calls made in the name of Embassy and report the matter immediately to the Embassy.

The Advisory in this regard has already been put up on Embassy's Website and social media accounts.

Ambassador listened to specific grievances of the community members present in the Open House.

It was a highly productive interactive session. While some of the grievances/issues being faced by the Indian Community have been resolved, on the other matters requiring documents/details, Embassy will follow up on the same with a view to resolve them at the earliest possible.
