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In view of the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic and the continuation of partial lockdown and prohibitory orders issued by the Government of India and various state governments, normalcy is yet to be restored, major part of the critical operations of RTAs are being carried out by working remotely from home by the employees with restricted resources as available. The Government of India and various state governments have also advised citizens to remain at home to the maximum extent possible and venture out only in case it is absolutely necessary.

Even though some of the state governments have relaxed certain norms for private sector establishments, states like Maharashtra have allowed only 10% of the employees to attend office. The state government, local bodies and politicians have also advised citizens not to venture out to reach workplaces unless it is absolutely critical and essential and to continue to work from home in order to avoid/contain the spread of Covid-19 infection and thus endangering human lives. Employees are not in a position to reach offices in view of non-availability of trains and adequate public transport. This has resulted in most of the RTAs working from home and only absolutely need based critical staff at office.

It is not out of place to mention that the postal services are not functioning fully while the courier services are completely stopped. Further, the employees of our client companies are also not attending the offices and only a few of their secretarial staff are working from home. Due to the non-availability of officials at company, there are delays in getting approvals / signing and returning of certificates after approval.

In view of the above, certain investor correspondence/grievances/complaints inwards by our office from the period third week/last week of February, 2020 which was to be processed and released within 30 days as the case may be, might not have been processed/released since our office was functional with bare minimum staff reporting to office from mid-March. Also, since the postal services are not functioning fully while the courier services are completely stopped, during this challenging times certain documents might have been despatched by the investor/intermediary but not received by us/not inwards, certain transactions/requests might have been processed/released by us but physical documents could not be despatched which has arisen due to these extraordinary circumstances.

Regulation 13(3) of SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015 reports may reflect certain investor correspondence/grievances/complaints inwards by our office from the period third week/last week of February, 2020 onwards which was to be processed and released within 30 days as the case may be, might not have been processed/released, processed/released by us but replies/physical documents could not be despatched for the reasons mentioned above. These are extraordinary circumstances beyond the control of RTAs.

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