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Sent: 31 March 2020 17:23
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Cc: prashar.sanjay@gov.in; Manab Majumdar <manab.majumdar@ficci.com>; Neerja Singh <neerja.singh@ficci.com>
Subject: Additional Measures to be considered by Indian Railways amid outbreak of COVID-19
Importance: High

Dear Shri Yadav,

Greetings from FICCI!

In addition to the previous suggestions submitted by FICCI for the improvement of business situation in India due to the Impact of COVID-19, appended are couple of more suggestions that could be considered by your ministry :-

1. As per PIB Circular dated 27.3.2020, Railways has invoked force Majeure condition on grounds of natural calamity from 22.3.2020 to 14.4.2020 for their own internal commercial operations.

Help Required :

- *The Force Majeure may be announced/ extended by Railways to their suppliers as well.*
- *Consider Granting delivery extension of supplies and products and no deduction on account of liquidated damages and penalty.*

2. Government of India (MHA) has issued advisory on 29.3.2020 to all Chief Secretaries of States to allow transportation of goods with no distinction of essential & non essential

Help Required : *Advisory thru State Government on allowing limited staff (min 15-25 people) for unloading the equipment at Destination point and do crane/fork-lift operations including essential services for maintenance of plants and equipments during lock-down period. This will also help ramp up of operations without any delay once lock down is lifted. Strict rules of social distancing, sanitising, hygiene etc will be enforced.*

3. Lockdown and suspension of inspection and despatches from factories in last week of FY 2019-20

Help Required : *Being last week of financial year closing a lot of finished high value goods of Rolling stock like Locomotives were ready for inspection and delivery to Indian Railways. As such for high value equipment's, basis the pre inspection report and Photos, Indian Railways could consider*

waiver of inspection and release of payment or alternatively some interim payment (Say upto 80% of value depending on discretion of payment authority) to maintain cash flow. The payment for finished goods will help cash in system to enable

- *Avoid smaller sub suppliers to get impacted for any delay in payment*
- *Ensure payment towards custom duty and taxes for material in transit*

Alternatively , your ministry through Ministry of Finance may also look at the appended suggestion

- Exemption/ deferment of custom duties and taxes (for minimum 90 days) on equipment coming from overseas

4. Pending payments for sub-components used in Rolling Stocks Supplied to Indian Railway Production Units primarily CLW / DLW / ICF / MCF / RCF

Help Required:

- *Release of pending payments for all supplies that have been made in February & March 2020*
- *Payments to be released by Zonal railways for service parts to sustain supporting service operations*

We hope you will kindly consider immediate actions on the proposed recommendations for the benefit of the industry.

Thanks so much and with kind regards,

Dilip Chenoy

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