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SUPREME COURT EXTENDS LIMITATION PERIODS BY ONE MONTH IN LIGHT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

23 March 2020

Earlier today, i.e., 23 March 2020, the Supreme Court of India (SC), in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 3/2020, took *suo motu* cognisance of the difficulties faced by litigants due to the rapidly escalating corona virus outbreak (COVID-19).

The SC pronounced an order under Article 142 of the Constitution of India extending the period of limitation with effect from 15 March 2020 till further order(s) are passed by the SC.

The extension applies to all proceedings such as the filing of petitions / applications / suits / appeals, in any court / tribunal / forum in India, irrespective of the limitation prescribed under the general law or special law (either central or state), whether condonable or not.

Such a step will provide immense relief to litigants across the country who are due to make filings in various courts / tribunals and are unable to be physically present in court, or undertake any travel for these filings on account of the 'lockdown' measures.

We will keep you updated on any further orders passed by the SC with regards to the extension of the limitation period applicable to any proceedings.

- Manavendra Mishra (Principal Associate) and Rajeswari Mukherjee (Associate)

For any queries please contact: editors@khaitanco.com

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Mumbai

One Indiabulls Centre, 13th Floor Tower 1 841, Senapati Bapat Marg Mumbai 400 013, India

T: +91 22 6636 5000 E: mumbai@khaitanco.com

New Delhi

Ashoka Estate, 12th Floor 24 Barakhamba Road New Delhi 110 001, India

T: +91 11 4151 5454 E: delhi@khaitanco.com

Bengaluru

Simal, 2nd Floor 7/1, Ulsoor Road Bengaluru 560 042, India

T: +91 80 4339 7000 E: bengaluru@khaitanco.com

Kolkata

Emerald House 1 B Old Post Office Street Kolkata 700 001, India

T: +91 33 2248 7000 E: kolkata@khaitanco.com