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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ W.P.(C) 9189/2021 & CM APPL. 28616/2021 (Interim Relief)
CM APPL. 28617/2021 (Exemption)

RIDA AI HALAWLH & ORS. Petitioners
Through Mr. Zeeshan Khan, Adv.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS. Respondents
Through Mr. Rajesh Gogna, Adv.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE REKHA PALLI

ORDER

% **27.08.2021**

CM APPL. 28617/2021 (Exemption)

1. Exemptions allowed, subject to all just exceptions.
2. The application stands disposed of.

W.P.(C) 9189/2021 & CM APPL. 28616/2021 (Interim Relief)

1. The present petition has been preferred by five members of a family seeking a direction to the respondent no.2 to extend their Visa by a period of 45 days, which Visa, is stated to be expiring on 31.08.2021.
2. Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that petitioners arrived in India on a medical visa on 01.07.2020 for the treatment of petitioner nos. 3 & 4. However, during the course of their stay in India, due to the sudden surge in COVID-19, the petitioners have incurred far greater expenses than they had anticipated and are therefore, finding it difficult to purchase tickets

to their desired destination of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, as the same are presently exorbitantly priced. He, therefore, prays that the respondent no.2 be directed to extend the petitioners' Visas by 45 days to allow them to make the necessary arrangements.

3. Issue notice. Mr. Rajesh Gogna accepts notice on behalf of the respondents and submits that, in case, the petitioners were to make an online application today itself for re-issuance of permit for staying in India for a further period of 45 days, the respondents will expeditiously consider the same by taking a compassionate view in the light of the fact that the entire world was reeling under the effect of COVID-19 ever since the petitioners arrived in India.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the application for re-issuance of the visa will be made by the petitioners today itself.

5. Keeping in view the fact that the petitioners' visa is expiring on 31.08.2021, it is expected that respondent no.2 will take an expeditious decision on the petitioner's application before the said date. A copy of the application be also furnished to the learned counsel for the respondents to ensure expeditious compliance with the directions of this Court.

6. List on 06.09.2021.

REKHA PALLI, J

AUGUST 27, 2021

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