F. No. 42180123/CC-1465 Government of India Ministry of Home Affairs (Foreigners Division)

> Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium New Delhi-110001, Dated: 12.12.2019

To

Shri S. Samuel Administrative Officer (Visitor Services), Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics, Post Bag 4, Ganeshkhind, Pune-411007

Subject:- 5th Asia-Pacific Solar Physics Meeting from 3rd to 7th February, 2020 at IUCAA, Pune.

Sir/Madam,

With reference to your letter no. nil dated 29.11.2019 on the above mentioned subject, I am directed to convey that in the light of extant instructions contained in the Visa Manual, security clearance of Ministry of Home Affairs is required only for the foreign participants from the Prior Reference Countries i.e. Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Sudan, foreigners of Pakistani Origin and Stateless persons. Since there are no participants from the PRC category in the above mentioned event / list, accordingly event clearance from MHA is not required for Conference Visa. Indian Missions are authorised to issue Conference Visas with due diligence only after scrutinizing the case on its merits to foreign delegates on production of an invitation to a conference/ seminar / workshop being organised in India as per the provisions in Visa Manual.

2. Ministry of Home Affairs has launched an online event clearance platform (https://conference.mha.gov.in) for grant of security clearance for organizing an event. Necessary instruction in this regards is annexed as Annexure-'A' for reference and future compliance.

Yours sincerely

(Gopesh Kumar) Section Officer

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