

# Alcoholic beverage firms write to govt. over fees

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NEW DELHI

The Confederation of Indian Alcoholic Beverage Companies (CIABC) on Tuesday wrote to the Delhi Excise Commissioner saying that while majority of the State governments have waived fee and other license charges while granting 3-month extension, the Delhi government has asked for payment of license fees on pro-rata basis for three months in advance.

This at a time when the entire business has been shut down due to the lockdown, the confederation said. "During this period of lockdown all operations are suspended and there are no sales. The companies are paying salaries to staff. You can understand the financial burdens on them. Since firms are following government's instructions, they are at pains to understand why they should pay renewal fees for a period when there is no business on account of order from the government," the CIABC wrote. It requested the Excise Commissioner to waive renewal fees during lockdown.