NATION

TB scars on lung? Ban can't be lifted



LEGAL VIEW Ashish Mehta

I got an offer of employment from a UAE-based company in 2014. However, during the medical examination, an x-ray showed scars on my lungs. Due to this, I was permanently banned from entering the UAE. I consulted a doctor and was told that I had a tuberculosis virus, but was cured. Only the scars remain.

The doctor told me I was as fit as any normal person. But a permanent ban was imposed on me on basis of Ministerial Order No. 28/2010 and Law No. 7/2008. Please let me know if this ban can be lifted.

Pursuant to your question, it may be noted that relevant provisions of the Ministerial Order No 28 of 2010 and the Federal Law No. 7/2008 specifically state that applications for new visas for persons with a previous record of having suffered tuberculosis or presently suffering from the disease are considered unfit by law for further processing. Pursuant to this, all individuals seeking a residence/ employment visa in the UAE are required to undergo a compulsory medical examination. It may be noted that the reports of the medical examination are carefully scrutinised on a case to case basis. In

cases where scars are found on the lungs of an applicant, the reports are further examined for incidence of tuberculosis. Subsequently, the individuals confirmed to having suffered from tuberculosis on a previous occasion are imposed a lifetime immigration ban.

In view of the foregoing, it may be noted that an immigration ban imposed on a person having previously suffered from tuberculosis may not be lifted subsequently. However, you may contact the Ministry of Health and the office of the General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners' affairs for any further queries that you may have in this regard.

Married women can't be sponsored by father I'm a 24-year-old woman currently on my company's visa. I got married in Dubai Courts recently. I was planning on resigning and switching to my father's sponsorship as I have not moved in with my husband yet and won't be doing so till another year.

Recently I learnt that a married woman cannot be sponsored by her father. Please advise.

Pursuant to your question, it may be noted that in the UAE, an individual may sponsor a residence visa for his daughter till such time as she gets married.

Therefore, the residence visa of a married woman cannot be spon-

sored by her father. It has to be sponsored by either the husband of the woman or by any entity registered and incorporated in the UAE. You may contact the General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs for any further queries in this regard.

Individuals confirmed to having suffered from tuberculosis are imposed a lifetime immigration ban

Ashish Mehta is the founder and Managing Partner of Ashish Mehta & Associates. He is qualified to practise law in Dubai, the United Kingdom, Singapore and India. Full details of his firm on: www.amalawyers.com. Readers may e-mail their questions to: news@khaleejtimes.com or send them to Legal View, Khaleej Times, PO Box 11243, Dubai.