

Subject: Amendment to Chapter 2 - "e-Visa" of the Visa Manual

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Scan0442.PDF (1.7MB)

sameer.tyagi.vcf (331bytes)

Sir/ Madam,

Please find enclosed this Ministry's Circular No. 525 dated 22nd January, 2019 on the subject cited above.

Date: 22/01/19 04:12 PM

From: Sameer Tyagi <sameer.tyagi@gov.in>



Handwritten notes and stamps on the right side of the page. At the top, 'Seyon-on tour' is written. Below it, 'Dy. No. 620' and 'ADGID' are written. A large handwritten number '25777' is visible. Below that, 'Secretary (Tourism)' is written, followed by 'Dy. No. 436' and '22/1/19'. At the bottom right, 'Asst. H. Dy.' is written.

Regards

Sd/

(Sameer Tyagi)

Assistant Section Officer

Tel.: +91-886010171

F.II, Foreigners Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, India Gate, New Delhi - 110002.

No. 25022/102/2018-F.I
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
(Foreigners Division)

Major Dhyanchand National Stadium, India Gate
New Delhi - 110002, dated the 22nd January, 2019

To

1. All Indian Missions/ Posts
2. All State Governments/ UT Administrations
3. FRROs- Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Amritsar, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kochi, Thiruvananthapuram, Calicut, Goa, Lucknow and Ahmedabad.

Subject: Amendment to Chapter 2 – “e-Visa” of the Visa Manual

Sir,

Please refer to Chapter 2 – “e-Visa” of the Revised Visa Manual updated as on 15th September, 2017 and to this Ministry's Circulars no. 504 [F. no. 25020/75/2016-F.I (Vol.IV)] dated 15th June, 2018 amending chapters 2 & 3 of the Visa Manual, no. 513 [F.No. 25022/46/2018-F.I.] dated 10th August, 2018 and no. 522 [F.No. 25022/64/2018-F.I] dated 20th November, 2018 amending various chapters, including Chapter 2, of the Visa Manual.

2. Keeping in view the huge popularity of e-visa regime among foreigners, the matter regarding further liberalization of the e-visa regime has been considered by the Government. It has accordingly been decided, with the approval of the competent authority, to increase the duration of e-Tourist and e-Business visas from the existing 60 days with double entry to 1 year with multiple entry subject to the stay stipulations and registration requirements applicable for normal Tourist and Business visas. In view of the decision to increase the duration of e-Tourist and e-Business visas, the existing provisions relating to extension of e-Tourist and e-Business visas within India have been deleted. Further, it has also been decided to remove the existing restriction that a foreigner can be allowed e-visa for a maximum of three times in a calendar year.

3 Accordingly, following **amendments** are made in Chapter 2 of the Visa Manual pertaining to e-visa :-

(A) Sub-para (i) of Para 2.5 is substituted by the following:-

"(i) For a period up to one year from the date of first entry into India with multiple entry on e-Tourist Visa and e-Business Visa, subject to the following conditions -

- (a) On e-Tourist visa, continuous stay during each visit shall not exceed 90 days in case of nationals of all countries who are eligible for grant of e-visa except nationals of USA, UK, Canada and Japan. In the case of nationals of USA, UK, Canada and Japan, continuous stay during each visit shall not exceed 180 days. In all cases, no registration will be required.
- (b) On e-Business visa, continuous stay during each visit shall not exceed 180 days in case of nationals of all countries who are eligible for grant of e-visa and no registration will be required if the stay is for a period of less than 180 days. However, if the intention of the foreigner is to stay for more than 180 days, he/ she shall get himself/ herself registered with the FRRO/ FRO concerned within two weeks after the expiry of 180 days of his/ her arrival in India as provided in rule 7 of the Registration of Foreigners Rules, 1992. Further, the foreigner will also be required to register with the FRRO/ FRO concerned in case the aggregate stay in India on e-Business visa and/ or normal Business visa exceeds 180 days during a calendar year "

(B) Sub-para (v) of Para 2.5 is substituted by the following:-

"(v) In the case of e-Conference visa, extension may be granted for a maximum period of 30 days on case to case basis on merits of each case by the FRRO/ FRO concerned. Any further extension of e-Conference visa up to a total period of 180 days from the date of initial entry can be granted in exceptional cases on merits of each case only with prior approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs (Foreigners Division) "

(C) Note below para 2.5 is substituted by the following:-

"Note. The Immigration officer shall invariably put the following unambiguous endorsement on an e-Visa: 'Stay not to exceed one year (*in the case of e-Tourist visa & e-Business visa*)/ 60 days (*in the case of e-Medical visa and e-Medical Attendant visa*) / 30 days (*in the case of e-Conference visa*) and registration not required'.

However, if the intention of the foreigner availing e-Business visa is to stay for more than 180 days, he/ she shall get himself/ herself registered with the FRRO/ FRO concerned within two weeks after the expiry of 180 days of his/ her arrival in India. Further, the foreigner will also be required to register with the FRRO/ FRO concerned in case the aggregate stay in India on e-Business visa and/ or normal Business visa exceeds 180 days during a calendar year."

(D) Para 2.8 shall stand deleted and existing paras 2.9 and 2.10 is re-numbered as 2.8 and 2.9 respectively.

4. All other provisions in Chapter 2 of the Visa Manual would remain unchanged and continue to be in effect.

5. These instructions shall come into force with immediate effect.

Yours faithfully



(Pramod Kumar)

Director (Foreigners)

Tel. No. 23077508

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi
2. Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Transport Bhavan, New Delhi
3. Director General (Tourism), Ministry of Tourism, Transport Bhavan, New Delhi
4. Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Department of Commerce) [Shri Sudhanshu Pandey, Additional Secretary], Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi
5. Ministry of External Affairs [Shri Amit Narang, Joint Secretary (CPV)] - with the request to circulate these instructions to all Indian Missions and Posts.
6. Bureau of Immigration (Shri Rajeev Ranjan Verma, Joint Director) with the request to circulate these instructions to all FRROs/ FROs.

7. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (International Health Division), Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
8. Director, Cabinet Secretariat.
9. DDG, NIC- with a request to place this Circular in the online Notice Board of C-Visa and C- FRO



(Pramod Kumar)
Director (Foreigners)

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(Pramod Kumar)
Director (Foreigners)