

भारत सरकार / Government of India
पर्यटन मंत्रालय / Ministry of Tourism
सुविधा एवं मानक प्रभाग / Facilitation and Standards Division

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Date-16.09.2026

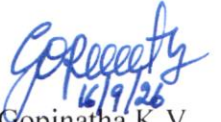
File No. TT-214/1/2026-TT

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Further Rationalization of Indian Visa Regime – Amendments to various Chapters and Appendices of the Visa Manual, 2019 – regarding.

The undersigned is directed to inform that various Amendments in Chapters and Appendices of the Visa Manual, 2019 have been done by the Government. Same have been placed at **Annexure – ‘A’ and Annexure- ‘B’**.

2. The amendments, inter-alia, relate to rationalization of visa categories and modification of **Tourist Visa (T) to Visitor Visa (V)** with V-1 and V-2 sub-categories along with corresponding amendments in various Chapters and Appendices of the Visa Manual, 2019.
3. It is therefore, requested to kindly disseminate the aforesaid information for better facilitation of tourists.
4. These issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


16/9/26
Gopinatha K.V
Director (F&S.)

To,

The President TAAI/FAITH/IATO/HAI/FHRAI/ADTOI/ATOAI/ABTO/ITTA

ANNEXURE- 'A'

Sl.no.	Main category of Visa	Sub-Categories		Remarks
		Existing	Revised	
18.	Visitor Visa (V)	02	02	Present nomenclature is Tourist Visa. Existing sub-categories are – T-1(for recreation, sightseeing, casual visit to meet friends and relatives, attending short term yoga programme, short duration medical treatment including treatment under Ayush systems, short term courses on local languages, music, dance, arts & crafts, cooking, medicine etc. and voluntary work of short duration) and T-2 (Mountaineering expeditions) Nomenclature of this visa is modified as Visitor Visa (V) with 02 sub-categories for following purposes:- i. V-1 Visa (short duration visa) (for transit, nationals), short term activities including business meetings, medical consultations, Wellness retreats etc. and for other activities presently covered under T-1 Visa. In the case of double entry V-1 Visa for Bangladeshi nationals, provisions as in para 17.1 B.(b) of Chapter 17 – Bangladesh nationals of this Visa Manual will be applicable. In the case of V-1 Visas granted for other purposes including for transit, the duration of visa will be 30 days with multiple entries. ii. V-2 Visa (For longer duration) (All activities covered under existing T-1 Visa and for Mountaineering activities).

(III) Amendments in Chapter 1 - General

A. Sub-para (1) of Para 1.16 shall be substituted by the following:-

Existing provision	Amended provision
Tourist Visa T	Visitor Visa - V

Appendix I

List of cases where prior reference has to be made to the Government of India or nationals of countries who are not eligible for grant of particular type of visa/facility

6. Visitor Visa	Foreign nationals of Pakistan origin
V-1 Visa (Tourism – short duration, transit, double entry visa for Bangladesh nationals)	No V – 1 Visa for Tourism purpose shall be granted to a national of Pakistan In the case of double entry visa for Bangladesh nationals – Where the Bangladesh national is Serving / retired personnel of Military/ semi – Military, Police/ semi-police, security and/or intelligence organization.
V-2 Visa (Tourism -longer duration Mountaineering)	Nationals of China, Pakistan, Afghanistan & Bangladesh and persons having their origin in these countries. Pakistani nationals are not eligible for V-2 Visa for tourism purpose

Appendix II (Para 1.16)

Main categories and sub-categories of visas granted by India

S. No.	Main category of visa	Specified	Sub-categories	Description	Remarks
8.	Visitor Visa	V	V-1	i. For transit, double entry visa for Bangladesh nationals ii. Short-term activities including Business meetings, medical consultations, Wellness retreats etc. iii. Recreation, sightseeing, casual visit to meet friends or relatives, attending a short term yoga programme, short duration medical treatment including treatment under Ayush systems, short term courses on local languages, music, dance, arts & crafts, cooking, medicine etc. which should not be a formal or structured course/ programme (courses not exceeding 30	In the case of double entry V-1 Visa for Bangladeshi nationals, provisions as in para 17.1 B. (b) of Chapter 17 – Bangladesh nationals of this Visa Manual will be applicable. In the case of V-1 Visas granted for transit, short-term activities and short-duration tourism, the duration of the visa will be 30 days with multiple entries.

				days duration and not issued with a qualifying certificate/diploma etc.), and voluntary work of short duration (for a maximum period of one month which do not involve any monetary payment or consideration of any kind in return). etc. and no other purpose/activity	
				Recreation, sightseeing, casual visit to meet friends or relatives, attending a short term yoga programme, short duration medical treatment including treatment under Ayush systems, short term courses on local languages, music, dance, arts & crafts, cooking, medicine etc. which should not be a formal or structured course/programme (courses not exceeding 06 months duration and not issued with a qualifying certificate/diploma etc.), and voluntary work of short duration (for a maximum period of one month, which do not involve any monetary payment or consideration of any kind in return), etc. and no other purpose/activity. Mountaineering activities.	1 year and 5 year (for tourism purpose) For specific countries – 10 years With multiple entries Stay stipulation 90 days / 180 days will be applicable For mountaineering activities – for 6 months with multiple entries.

Categories and sub categories of visas which are issued on e-visa platform and Visa-on-Arrival

S.No.	Categories and sub categories of visas	Specified as	Description	Remarks
1	E-Visa			
1	V- Visa	e-VI V	For Tourism & Transit	For all activities as covered under Paper/Sticker V-1 Visa (Except double entry visa for Bangladesh nationals)
2	Group Visit Visa *Cruise)	e-group Visit Visa	Foreign tourist coming by cruise vessels	For foreign tourists coming to India by cruise

		(Cruise)		vessels which follow a fixed and predetermined itinerary
3.	V-2 Visa	e-V2 V	For tourism/ Mountaineering activities	For all activities as covered under Paper/Stickers B-1 Visa (Other than PRS)
II.	Visa-on-Arrival			
1.	Visa-on-Arrival (for Japanese Republic of Korea and UAE nationals)	Voa	Double entry visa for 60 days for business (covered by B-1 Visa), tourism covered by V-1/V-2 Visa (other than mountaineering activities), conference (covered by B-2 Visa) and medical purpose (covered by M-1 & M-3 Visas)	

Amendments in Chapter2-eVisa

Following para is added after para 2.8 .

"2.9 e-Group Visit Visa (Cruise)

e-Group Visit Visa (Cruise) may be granted to foreign tourists coming to India by cruise vessels which follow a fixed and predetermined itinerary on the following terms and conditions:

- i. Cruise Liner/ Agent of the vessel shall apply for e-Group Visit Visa (Cruise) for foreign tourists of such cruise vessels. Application for this purpose shall be uploaded in Seaport immigration Portal (SIP) or through dedicated Mobile App. The e-Group Visit Visa (Cruise) shall be issued similar to e-T 1 Visa.
- ii. Application for e-Group Visit Visa (Cruise) should be submitted 03 (three days) before berthing of the vessel at the first Indian Port. No fresh application shall be accepted beyond this cut-off date.
- iii. The nationals of countries who are eligible for e-T1 Visa (Appendix III of this Visa Manual) shall be eligible for e-Group Visit Visa (Cruise). This facility shall not be available to the applicants whose parents/ grandparents (paternal / maternal) are Pakistan nationals or belonged to Pakistan.
- iv. Using the agent/Cruise Liner user credentials, the shipping agent/ Cruise Liner shall provide / submit the vessel and itinerary details for which e-Group Visit Visa (Cruise) is being sought. Details of the foreigners shall be uploaded in bulk.
- v. The visa shall contain QR code and shall be valid for 30 days with multiple entry facility.
- vi. Every individual will have a unique e-Group Visit Visa (Cruise) QR code and unique Visa number which shall be integrated individually with UCF.
- vii. e-croup Visit Visa (Cruise) of approved applicants can be downloaded in bulk/ individually by the agent/Cruise Liner.
- viii. There shall be no stamping of e-Group Visit Visa (Cruise) including arrival and departure stamp on the passport.
- ix. If any passenger breaks the predetermined itinerary and exits/ leaves the cruise vessel, his biometrics shall be captured and e-Group Visit Visa (Cruise) will be stamped on the passport."
