# AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND

# THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND ON EXEMPTION OF VISA REQUIREMENT FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand hereinafter referred to singularly as the "Contracting Party" and collectively as the "Contracting Parties;"

CONSIDERING the interest of both countries to strengthen their friendly relations; and

DESIRING to facilitate the entry of the citizens of the Republic of India and the citizens of the Kingdom of Thailand, who are holders of diplomatic and official passports into their respective countries;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

# ARTICLE I

- 1. A citizen of either Contracting Party holding valid diplomatic or official passport shall be permitted to enter into, exit from and transit through the territory of the other Contracting Party through their respective international points of entry without visas.
- 2. A citizen of either Contracting Party holding a valid diplomatic or official passport shall be allowed to stay in the territory of the other Contracting Party for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days.

# ARTICLE II

1. A citizen of either Contracting Party, who is assigned as a member of the diplomatic or consular staff in the territory of the other Contracting Party holding a valid diplomatic or official passport shall be permitted to enter into and stay in

the territory of the other Contracting Party without a visa for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days. Such period of stay will, upon request of the embassy of either Contracting Party in the territory of the other Contracting Party, be extended until the end of his/her assignment.

- 2. A citizen of one Contracting Party being the representative of his/her country in an international organization located in the territory of other Contracting Party holding a valid diplomatic or official passport shall also enjoy the rights mentioned in paragraph I of this Article.
- 3. The families of the members of the diplomatic Mission or Consulate or the representatives to an international organization mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall be permitted the same entry or stay, if they are holders of valid diplomatic or official passport of the Contracting Parties or the names of their children are entered in their parents' passports.

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# ARTICLE III

- 1. Each Contracting Party reserves the right to refuse the entry into or shorten the stay in its territory of any citizen of the other Contracting Party whom it may consider undesirable.
- 2. If a citizen of one Contracting Party loses his/her passport in the territory of the other Contracting Party, he/she shall inform the authorities concerned of the host country for appropriate action. The diplomatic Mission or Consulate concerned will issue a fresh passport or travel document to its citizen and inform the concerned authorities of the host Government.

# ARTICLE IV

Citizens of either Contracting Party, being holders of diplomatic or official passports shall abide by the laws and regulations of the other Contracting Party while crossing its frontier and throughout the duration of their stay in its territory.

#### ARTICLE V

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, each Contracting Party shall transmit to the other, through diplomatic channels, specimens of its respective passports,

including a detailed description of such documents, currently used, at least thirty(30) days before the entry into force of this Agreement.

2. Each Contracting Party shall also transmit to the other through diplomatic channels, specimens of its new or modified passports, including a detailed description of such documents, at least thirty (30) days before it is brought into force.

# ARTICLE VI

Each Contracting Party reserves the right for reasons of security, public order or public health to suspend temporarily, either in whole or in part, the Implementation of this Agreement, which shall take effect thirty(30) days after notification has been given to the other Contracting Party through diplomatic channels.

#### ARTICLE VII -

Either Contracting Party may request in writing, through diplomatic channels, a revision or amendment of whole or part of this Agreement. Any revision or amendment which has been agreed to by the Contracting Parties shall come into effect on a date to be mutually agreed upon and shall accordingly form part of this Agreement.

# ARTICLE VIII

Any difference or dispute arising out of the implementation of the provision of the Agreement shall be settled amicably by consultation or negotiation between the Contracting Parties without reference to any third party or an international tribunal.

# ARTICLE IX

This Agreement shall enter into force on a date to be mutually agreed upon by the Contracting Parties, which shall be notified through the exchange of Diplomatic Notes. This Agreement shall remain in force for an indefinite period and may be terminated by either Contracting Party by notification through

diplomatic channels, which shall enter into force sixty (60) days after the date of such notification.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement.

DONE at Bangkok on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year two thousand and three in two(2) originals; in Hindi, Thai and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In the event of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE
REPUBLIC OF INDIA

(Yashwant Sinha) Minister for External Affairs

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FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE
KINGDOM OF THAILAND

(Surakiart Sathirathai) Minister of Foreign Affairs