

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
ON TRAVEL FACILITIES FOR CITIZENS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (hereinafter referred to as the Parties)

Recognising the friendly ties existing between the two countries

Desirous of promoting further and consolidating their traditional friendly relations

Desirous further of facilitating travel between the two countries

Have agreed as follows :

Article I

1. A citizen of one Party holding a valid diplomatic or official passport shall be exempt from entry visa, transit visa and/or exit visa where applicable, while entering, transiting and exiting from the territory of the other Party.

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2. A citizen of one Party holding the said passport shall be allowed to stay in the other Party's territory for 90 days maximum. On the written request from the diplomatic mission or consulate of the Party to which the citizen belongs, the other Party may give an extension beyond the said period.

Article II

1. Members of the diplomatic mission or consulate of either Party located in the territory of the other Party shall be granted a residence visa valid for the duration of his/her assignment at the written request of the diplomatic mission or consulate concerned, provided that they are citizens of the Party and are holding diplomatic or official passports.

2. A citizen of one Party being the representative of his/her country in an international organisation located in the territory of the other Party holding the said passport shall also enjoy the rights mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article.

3. The facilities enumerated in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall apply also to the spouse of a member of the diplomatic mission or consulate and their children, provided they are holding a similar category of passport or the children's names are entered in their father's or mother's passport.

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Article III

1. A citizen of one Party holding an ordinary passport when entering, exiting or transiting across the territory of the other Party shall have an entry visa or transit visa and exit visa where applicable issued by the other Party.

2. A citizen of one Party holding an ordinary passport on business or official visit shall be granted entry or transit and/or exit visa where applicable by the diplomatic mission or consulate of the other Party maximum within seven working days from the date of submission of all requisite documents according to the existing laws and regulations of the host country, including the invitation letter of the organisation of the host Party. All efforts, however, will be made to grant the requisite visa at the earliest within the prescribed period.

Article IV

The entry into and exit from the territory of either Party shall be through international entry points of each Party.

Article V

1. This Agreement does not exempt the holder of the said passport from the obligation of respecting all regulations under existing laws of the host country.

2. Either Party has the right to refuse entry or to cut short the duration of stay of any citizen from the other Party.

Article VI

If a citizen of one Party loses his/her passport in the territory of the other 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 VII

For the sake of national security or public health, either Party may temporarily suspend a part of or the whole Agreement. The Party which decides to temporarily suspend or denounce the suspension of a part of or the whole Agreement shall immediately inform the other Party of such a decision through diplomatic channels.

Article VIII

After the signing of this Agreement, the two Parties shall exchange through diplomatic channels the sample of the passport being used by each Party, at least 30 days before the Agreement enters into force and/or the sample of any new passport, at least 30 days before it is introduced.

Article IX

1. This Agreement is subject to approval by the competent authorities of the two Parties.

2. This Agreement shall enter into force 30 days after the date of exchange of notification of approval by the two Parties.

3. This Agreement shall be valid for an indefinite period unless either Party gives to the other three months notice in writing of its intention to terminate the Agreement.

4. This Agreement may be modified or amended by mutual consent of the two Parties.

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Done at HANOI on this Seventh day of September of the year 1994 in two originals each in Hindi, Vietnamese and English, all the texts being equally authentic. In case of doubt, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of
the Republic of India



(R L BHATIA)
MINISTER OF STATE
FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OF THE REPUBLIC
OF INDIA

For the Government of the
Socialist Republic of Vietnam



(NGUYEN MANH CAM)
FOREIGN MINISTER
OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
OF VIETNAM