

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF INDIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
COLOMBIA ON VISA EXEMPTION FOR DIPLOMATIC AND
OFFICIAL PASSPORT HOLDERS**

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Colombia (hereinafter referred to as the Parties);

Recognising the friendly ties existing between the two countries;

Desirous of strengthening further and to consolidate 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 exit visa where applicable, while entering into, transiting through or exiting from the territory of the other Party.
2. The nationals of both countries who hold diplomatic or official passports, issued by the authorities concerned, shall be allowed to enter or stay in the territory of the other Party for a period of 90 days, without having to obtain visa previously. At the request of the Mission or Consulate to which the person concerned belongs, the other Party shall be able to authorize the extension for the period mentioned.

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 suitable 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 that 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 also apply 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.

Article - III

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.
3. The holders of diplomatic or official passports of either Party who are international civil servants or who are employed by an international organization, body, agency or any other such entity, would be required to obtain visa prior to their travel to the territory of the other Party for official visits.

Article - IV

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 local Government.

Article - V

1. 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 a part of /or the whole Agreement shall immediately inform the other Party of such a decision through diplomatic channels.

2. After the signing of this Agreement, the two parties shall exchange through diplomatic channels the sample of the passport being used by each Party, within 30 days of the signing of Agreement, and the sample of any new passport, at least 30 days before it is introduced.

Article - VI

1. The Parties shall notify through diplomatic notes the fulfillment of the internal requirements necessary for the entering into force of the present Agreement. The Agreement shall enter into force 60 days after the Parties notify the second one of the said notifications.
2. The present Agreement shall be in force indefinitely. Either of the Parties shall be able to denounce it through written notification addressed to the other Party, and these shall enter into force three months after it is received by the latter.
3. Either of the Parties shall be able to propose modifications or amendments to the present agreement, after its entry into force. The adoption of the said modifications or amendments shall be effected by common agreement between the two Parties.

Done at New Delhi, on this Fifth Day of March of the year 2001 in three originals in Hindi, Spanish and English languages, all the texts being equally authentic. In case of doubt, the English text shall prevail.



(R.S. Kalha)
Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs
For the Government of the
Republic of India



(Maria Clara Betancur)
Ambassador of the
Republic of Colombia
For the Government of the
Republic of Colombia