

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC  
ON  
EXEMPTION OF VISA REQUIREMENT FOR HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC AND  
OFFICIAL PASSPORTS**

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, hereafter referred to singularly as the "Contracting Party" and collectively as the "Contracting Parties",

CONSIDERING the interest of both countries to strengthen their friendly relations,

DESIRING to facilitate the entry of the citizens of the Republic of India and the citizens of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

Who are holders of diplomatic and official passports into their respective countries,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

1. A citizen of either Contracting Party, who is in possession of a 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 the said passport shall be allowed to stay in the territory of the other Contracting Party for the maximum period of thirty (30) days of his/her official mission. This period may be extended by the relevant authorities of each Contracting Party beyond the said period.

ARTICLE 2

- 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 and in possession of a valid diplomatic or official passport shall be required to obtain a visa to enter the territory of the other Contracting Party and shall be granted visa within seven days.
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 and holding the said passport shall also be required to obtain visa from the diplomatic mission of the other Party which shall be granted within seven days.

3. The requirement enumerated in paragraph 1 of this Article shall also apply to the spouse of a member of the diplomatic Mission or Consulate and their children as also to the spouse and children of representatives of one Contracting Party posted to an international organization located in the territory of the other Contracting Party, 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 3

1. A citizen of either Contracting Party, who is in possession of a valid diplomatic or official passport and is attending a meeting or conference convened by an international organization or Government, which is held in the territory of the other Contracting Party, shall not be required to obtain a visa.

2. The holders of diplomatic and official passports of either Contracting Party 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 Contracting Party for official visits.

### ARTICLE 4

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 5

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

### ARTICLE 6

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 7

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 8

Either Contracting Party may request in writing, through diplomatic channels, a revision or amendment of all 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 9

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 10

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 day of such notification.

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

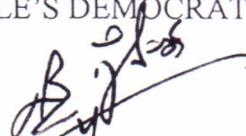
DONE at Vientiane on this Sixth day of November in the year two thousand two in two(2) originals; in Hindi, Lao and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In the event of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA



YASHWANT SINHA  
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF  
LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC  
REPUBLIC



SOMSAVAT LENGSAVAD  
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND  
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS