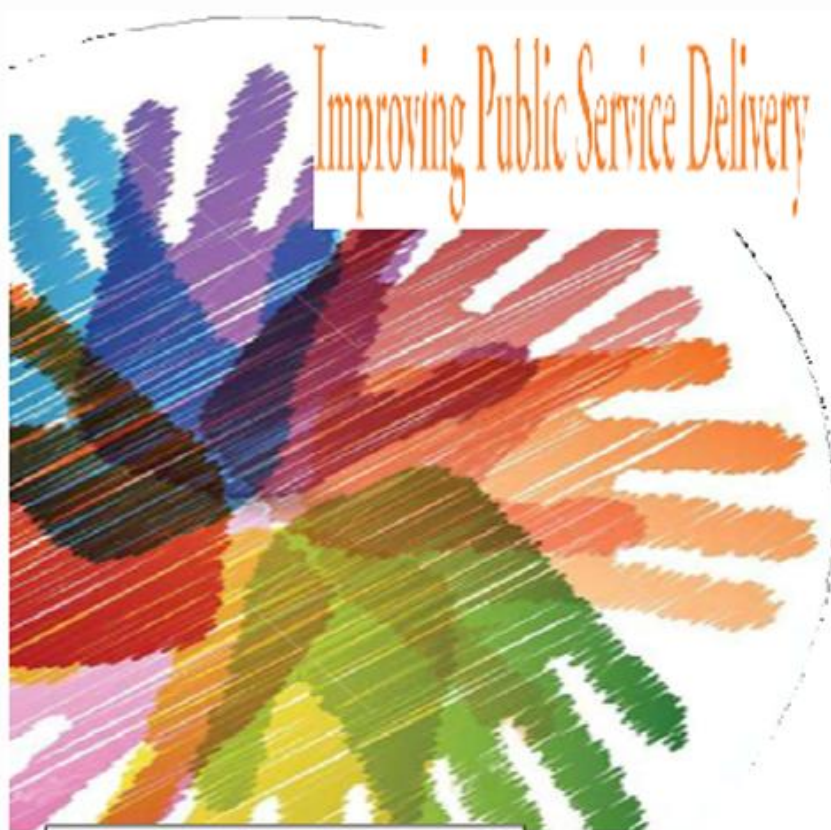


CITIZEN'S CHARTER

July 2026



Delivering services to citizens is at the heart of what MEA does. Our continuous effort is to provide a responsive and efficient delivery of citizen services.



सत्यमेव जयते

Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India

Citizen's Charter – Ministry Of External Affairs

1. Passport Services

S. No.	Service Rendered	Fees/ Charges	Procedure	Timeline
1.	Issue of Ordinary Passport	Fee calculator is available on the Passport Seva Online Portal. Follow the link: https://www.passportindia.gov.in/psp/FeeCalculator OR Refer https://www.passportindia.gov.in/AppOnlineProject/pdf/GSR_516_dtd_20.06.2026.pdf	Step by step procedure is available on the Passport Seva Online Portal. Follow the link: https://www.passportindia.gov.in/psp/ApplyPassport	For Fresh issue: Up to 30 working days (Police Verification (PV) period excluded) For Re-issue: Up to 7 working days in cases where pre-police verification is not required and up to 30 working days in cases where PV is required [PV period excluded] For Tatkaal: Up to 3 working days subject to the condition that the applicant is eligible for issue of passport under the Tatkaal Scheme. (For eligibility, please check on link: https://www.passportindia.gov.in/psp/TatkaalPassports
2.	Issue of Police Clearance Certificate (for Indian Passport Holders) applying for: (I) Citizenship/ Nationality Application (ii) Education/ Research Employment/Employment (iii) Visa/ Work permit Immigration Purpose Other Than Citizenship (iv) Long Term Visa/Stay (v) Residence Permit (vi) Tourist Visa	Refer https://www.passportindia.gov.in/AppOnlineProject/pdf/GSR_516_dtd_20.06.2026.pdf	Step by step procedure is available on the Passport Seva Online Portal. Follow the link: https://www.passportindia.gov.in/psp/ApplyPCC	Up to 7 working days (Police Verification (PV) period excluded)

	(vii) Adoption			
3.	(viii) Others Issue of Surrender Certificate after acquisition of foreign nationality	Refer https://www.passportindia.gov.in/AppOnlineProject/pdf/GSR_516_dtd_20.06.2026.pdf Note: Renunciation of Indian Citizenship is administered by Ministry of Home Affairs. For detailed information, please visit https://indiancitizenshiponline.nic.in	Step by step procedure is available on the Passport Seva Online Portal. Follow the link: https://www.passportindia.gov.in/psp/ApplyIdentitySurrender	Up to 3 working days (In cases where police verification is not required)
4.	Issue of LoC Permit (for J&K residents who wish to visit relatives across the LoC)	No charges	Step by step procedure is available on the Passport Seva Online Portal. Follow the link: https://www.passportindia.gov.in/psp/ApplyLOC	Depends upon case to case basis

All Timelines are applicable from the date of receipt of complete documentation and subject to satisfaction of PIA and the requisite clearances/ verifications.

Link to find the required document checklist:

<https://www.passportindia.gov.in/psp> -> Services -> Document Advisory

Grievance Redressal

Any grievance or complaint arising out of any non-compliance of service standards, failure in delivery of service or in the functioning of a PIA may be logged online at (a) Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) www.pgportal.gov.in or (b) <https://www.passportindia.gov.in/psp/Grievance> or (c) register at toll free no. 1800-258-1800

Feedback/ Suggestions

Feedback and suggestions can be given by (i) logging on to passport portal www.passportindia.gov.in (ii) calling toll free no. 1800-258-1800 or (iii) writing to Assistant Passport Officer (PG), Public Grievance Cell, Room no. 24, CPV Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Patiala House Annexe, Tilak Marg, New Delhi 110001, Tel. no. 011-23384519, 23384497, Fax no. 011-23384461, e-mail: passport.pg@mea.gov.in

Please note that for all passport related services for Indians abroad, they need to contact the nearest Embassy/ Consulate.

Link to the contact information of different Embassy/ Consulate: <https://www.mea.gov.in/indian-mission-abroad>

For Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), please refer:

<https://www.passportindia.gov.in/psp/faqs>

To Download mPassportSeva Mobile app please refer:

<https://www.passportindia.gov.in/psp/MpassportApp>

2. Consular services

Apostille & Attestation Services

S. No.	Service Rendered	Fees/Charges	Procedure	Timeline
1.	Apostille (applicable in case of document attestation for member countries of The Hague Convention) https://www.hcch.net/en/instruments/conventions/status-table/?cid=41	MEA: Rs. 50 per apostilled document. Service charges: (i) <u>For Online through e-Sanad</u> Rs. 40 for speed post delivery (ii) <u>For Offline through Outsource agencies:</u> Rs 84 (for collection and delivery of documents) and Rs 3 per page for scanning.	Visit link for detailed information about the procedure: https://www.mea.gov.in/apostille-menu Note: (I) Documents which are available for preauthentication by respective States/UT can only be apostilled through e-Sanad. Currently only few States/UT are integrated in e-Sanad for preauthentication. (ii) Documents have to be pre-authenticated from respective States/UT authorities before submission to Outsource agencies.	Usually within 7 working days after receiving in MEA.
2.	Attestation (applicable for all other countries which are not member of The Hague Convention, 1961 and where Apostille is not accepted)	MEA: Free of cost Service charges: (i) <u>For Online through e-Sanad</u> Rs. 40 for speed post delivery (ii) <u>For Offline through Outsource agencies:</u> Rs 84 (for collection and delivery of documents) and Rs 3 per page for scanning.	Visit link for detailed information about the procedure: https://www.mea.gov.in/apostille-menu Note: (I) Documents which are available for preauthentication by respective States/UT can only be apostilled through e-Sanad. Currently only few States/UT are integrated in e-Sanad for preauthentication. (ii) Documents have to be pre-authenticated from respective States/UT authorities before submission to Outsource agencies.	Usually within 7 working days after receiving in MEA.

No Obligation to Return to India (NORI) Services

S. No.	Service Rendered	Fees/Charges	Procedure	Timeline
1.	Issue of No Obligation to Return to India (NORI) Certificate NORI waiver certificate is issued to Indian nationals to waive off two years of home (India) residency which is mandatory for all J-1 visa holders, as per US Immigration Laws, who wishes to apply for H1B Visa (Work Visas).	For applicants outside India Fee of US\$25.00 and an additional fee of US\$2.00 (ICWF) No fee for applicant applying in India	<u>Applicants staying in United States or any other country outside India are required to apply at the nearest Indian Mission/Post.</u> Those who have returned to India may apply in the CPV Division of the Ministry of External Affairs Patiala House Annexe, Tilak Marg, New Delhi 110001 (Tel: 011-23389165; Email: Socons[at]mea[dot]gov[dot]in). Visit the link for detailed information about the procedure and required documents: https://www.mea.gov.in/nori-menu	Ten working days from the date of receipt of postal mail at the Embassy, subject to submission of all requisite documents by applicant and verification of applicant's particulars. Seven working days from the date of receipt of postal documents at CPV Division, subject to submission of all requisite documents by applicant and verification of applicant's particulars

All Timelines are applicable from the date of receipt of complete documentation and subject to satisfaction of Issuing Authority and the requisite clearances/ verifications.

Grievance Redressal

Any grievance arising out of any non-compliance of service standards, failure in delivery of service or in the functioning of a PIA may be logged online at (a) Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) www.pgportal.gov.in or (b) register at toll free no. 1800-11-3090.

Feedback/ Suggestions

Feedback and suggestions can be given by writing to Director (CPV), Room no. 03, CPV Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Patiala House Annexe, Tilak Marg, New Delhi 110001, Tel. no. 011-23386760, e-mail: dircpv@mea.gov.in.

Please note that for consular services for Indians abroad, they need to contact the nearest Embassy/ Consulate. Link to the contact information of different Embassy/ Consulate: <https://www.mea.gov.in/indian-mission-abroad>

3. Overseas Employment Services & Protectorate General of Emigrants (PGE)

S. No.	Description of Services	Officer responsible (designation for providing service Landline / Email	Documents required	Timeline
1.	Issue of Eligibility Letter to the Applicant Under Section 11(2)(b) of the Emigration Act, 1983	Protector General of Emigrants. Phone:011-24156508 Email :- pge@mea.gov.in Application may be submitted online on the emigrate.gov.in and routed through the Office of the concerned Protector of Emigrants	Application should be submitted online through emigrate.gov.in and hard copy of application to be submitted to the Office of the concerned Protector of Emigrants, along with following documents: - Form- I duly signed and stamped by the applicant. - Online payment/Demand Draft of Rs.25,000/- in favour of PAO,MEA, New Delhi as processing fee for the application under Rule 7(2) of the Emigration Act 1983. - GST registration of the entity. - The Passport-Size photographs of Proprietor/Managing Partner/Managing Director of the Proprietorship/ Firm/ Company self-attested. - Statement showing the Name/Age and Residential address of Proprietor/All Partners/All directors of the along with designation and business activities undertaken during the last five years. - Specimen signature of the Proprietor / Managing Partner / Managing Director self-attested - Copy of the applicant's Bachelor's degree or two years Diploma or equivalent from a recognized university or institute as per rule 7(2)(i) of the Emigration Act 1983 duly verified by University/Institute concerned. - A statement showing the Assets and Liabilities of the proprietor, if the applicant is sole proprietor, and of the managing partners or the managing director if the applicant is a firm or a company as the case may be duly verified by a chartered accountant having a certificate of practice under the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 (38 of 1949), showing the financial soundness of the applicant, under Rule 7(2)(ii). (a) Resolution taken by all the Directors / Partners authorizing one of the Directors / Partners to act as Managing Director / Partner and to sign papers on behalf of the firm. (b) Copy of partnership deed (which must provide for recruitment of workers for overseas employment) registered with the authority concerned	30 WORKING DAYS from the date of receipt of complete documentation (The number of days specified to provide services is subject to availability of documents complete in all respect. Time limit is not inclusive of time consumed in any additional information required for the submission of rectified/deficient documents)

			(c) True extracts from the Registrar of Firm in support of registration of the partnership deed (d) A copy of the Balance Sheet as at the close of the previous financial year. (e) A copy of PAN Card and Aadhar Card of the agency / firm / company and Prop / Managing Director / Managing Partner / Directors / Partners. (f) Copies of Income tax returns of last 3 years under Rule 7(2)(iii) in respect of Proprietor, Firm, Managing Partner, Managing Director, Company 10. An affidavit in Form-II executed by the applicant before a Magistrate or Notary under Rule 7(2)(iv) of the Emigration Act 1983. 11. Form- IV (Affidavit) duly signed and sworn in before Metropolitan/Judicial Magistrate on each page in respect of all the partners / directors. 12. In case of office premises owned by the applicant; Copy of ownership deed/proof duly attested by Notary/Magistrate Or In case where the office premises are on lease or on hire (a) Copy of lease deed/agreement duly attested by Magistrate. It is required to be for a period of 3 years or at least for one year with a provision of extension, (b) Latest rent receipt in original with revenue stamp, and; (c) Blue Print of the lay-out plan of the office premises duly signed and stamped (with registration number) by Government approved Architect and countersigned by the applicant. The dimensions of the rooms and total carpet area must clearly be indicated. 13. No Objection Certificate (in Form.III) from the owner of office premises duly sworn in before Metropolitan/Judicial Magistrate. 14. Copy of Certificate under the Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, self-attested. 15. Valuation report of assets / investments etc. duly signed and stamped by a Government approved valuer (with registration number) along with documentary proof against fixed assets / investment / liquid assets / liabilities. 16. Net Worth Certificate from a registered CA certifying Financial	
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			strength Bench Mark of Rs. 42.0 lakh (Fixed Assets Rs. 22 lakh plus Liquid Assets Rs. 20 lakh) satisfied by the proprietor, partnership firm or the private limited company providing following: (a) Immovable Assets (b) Liquid Assets (c) Liability (d) Net Worth 17. Copy of the latest Land Line telephone bill of the Office premises self attested. 18. Trade Testing Certificate (in original) from a Trade Test Centre duly approved by the central or state governments and must be signed and stamped by the Director of the Centre indicating the items / skill being tested at the centre and photographs thereof 19. Experience in recruitment of manpower for Overseas Employment (a) Names of countries where the applicant proposed to concentrate (b) Number of workers proposed to be deployed annually (c) Plans for market development 20. Police Verification Report in respect of both the office premises of the applicant agency and the residence of the Proprietor / Managing Partner / Managing Director / Partners of Company 21. Inspection Report of office premises of the applicant agency by the concerned Protector of Emigrants.	
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2.	Issue of Registration Certificate to the Applicant Under Section 11(4) of the Emigration Act, 1983	Protector General of Emigrants. Phone:011-24156508 Email :- pge@mea.gov.in	(i) Security in the form of Bank Guarantee for Rs.50,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty Lakhs only) valid for 8 years excluding a claim period of six months, from any Nationalized Bank or Scheduled Commercial Bank within one month from the date of issue of Eligibility Letter for taking further action in the matter as enumerated under Rule 8 of the Emigration Rules 1983. Provided that any entity desirous of registering as recruiting agent may do so with a reduced security of rupees eight lakh also, such entity shall be permitted to recruit only 100 workers during the period for which registration is granted. Provided further, that in the event of the recruitment of specified number getting completed, before the expiry of the certificate, the holder of the certificate maybe permitted by the registering authority, to continue recruitment of additional workers in tranches of 100 workers upto the date of expiry of the certificate, on furnishing additional corresponding security of rupees eight lakh per 100 additional workers. (ii) Confirmation of Bank Guarantee to its genuineness from concerned issuing Bank and Regional Office of the issuing Bank. OR (i) Security in the form of Credit Insurance Policy (Surety Insurance Policy) in case of 1000+ workers capacity should be furnished in the prescribed format having validity of 8 years excluding claim period of at least six months. (ii) Confirmation of Surety Insurance Policy from concerned Insurance Company.	15 WORKING DAYS from the date of receipt of complete documentation (The number of days specified to provide services is subject to availability of documents complete in all respect. Time limit is not inclusive of time consumed in any additional information required for the submission of rectified/deficient documents)
3.	Processing of Permit application submitted by the Project Exporter and Foreign Employer for overseas employment Under Section 17 of the Emigration Act, 1983	Protector General of Emigrants. Phone:011-24156508 Email :- pge@mea.gov.in		30 WORKING DAYS from the date of receipt of complete documentation (The number of days specified to provide services is subject to availability of documents complete in all respect. Time limit is not inclusive of time consumed in any additional information required for the submission of rectified/deficient documents)
4.	Processing of Emigration	Protector of Emigrants. Details available on	Online application through www.emigrate.gov.in along with following supporting documents:-	03 Working Days

Clearances Under Section 22 of the Emigration Act, 1983	https://emigrate.gov.in/assets/pdfs/resource/PoEsOfficeDetails.pdf	(i) Bank Challan / online payment of Rs. 200 (ii) Passport Copy(Valid at least for six months) (iii) Valid Visa copy (in case of direct recruitment attestation of Indian Mission is required) (iv) Employment Contract duly signed by foreign employer, RA and Emigrant Copy (in case of direct recruitment attestation of Indian Mission is required) (v) Pravasi Bhartiya Bima Policy (vi) Photo of emigrants Note:- RAs, Emigrants and Foreign Employers are advised that the EC should be applied with at least 15 working days of visa validity remaining or preferably as soon as the visa is issued for the emigrant.	(The number of days specified to provide services is subject to availability of documents complete in all respect. Time limit is not inclusive of time consumed in any additional information required for the submission of rectified / deficient documents)
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Grievance Redressal: Grievances related to Overseas Employment can also be lodged directly by emigrants/relatives or through the Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendra, Delhi (PBSK) which is linked to e-Migrate portal. The grievances can be lodged by contacting on any of the following: 1800 11 3090 (toll free) or +91-11-2688-5021 (chargeable) or +91 74283 21144 (WhatsApp No.) or helpline@mea.gov.in (email). Walk-in facilities for lodging grievances are also available at Delhi, Kochi, Hyderabad, Chennai, Lucknow, Chandigarh and Patna located at respective office of Protector of Emigrants (PoEs). These grievances are settled by respective jurisdictional Protectors of Emigrants (PoEs) as per laid down procedures.



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Ministry of External Affairs
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New Delhi