

No. 25022/102/2018-F.I
Government of India

(Foreigners Division)

Major Dhyanchand Nation I Stadium, India Gate
New Delhi - 110002, dated the

To

1. All Indian Missions/ Posts
2. All State Governments/ UT Administrations
3. FRROs- Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Amritsar, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kochi, Thiruvananthapuram, Calicut, Goa, Lucknow and Ahmedabad.

Subject: Amendment to Chapter 2 – “e-Visa” of the Visa Manual

Sir,

Please refer to this Ministry's Circulars no. 525 & 526 [No. 25022/102/2018-F.I] dated 22.01.2019 and 24.01.2019 conveying certain amendments to Chapter 2- 'e-visa' of the Visa Manual.

2. The matter regarding the procedure for submission of application and validity for e-Tourist and e-Business visas has been further examined in this Ministry. As per the existing stipulation in para 2.3 of the Visa Manual, the applicant can apply for all sub-categories of e-visa 120 days in advance prior to expected date of arrival in India. Further, as per para 2.5 of the Visa Manual, the validity of all sub-categories of e-visa is counted from the date of first entry into India. Since the validity of Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) issued is presently 120 days, if a person who is issued ETA for e-Tourist or e-Business visa does not enter India within 120 days, he/ she cannot avail the 1-year duration e-Tourist or e-Business visa. With a view to remove this anomalous situation, it has been decided, with the approval of the competent authority, to do away with the present restriction for a [] in [] for e-visa i.e. onl 120 da s in advance prior to expecte [] ate of arrival in India] in case of e-Tourist and e-Business visas. It has also been decided to make the ETA co-terminus with the visa validity in case of e-Tourist and e-Business visas so that the applicant would be eEligible to enter India from the date of grant of ETA till any time in the next 365 days i.e. the ETA would be valid during the entire period of 365 days.

3. Accordingly, following amendments are made in Chapter 2 of the Visa Manual pertaining to 'e-visa':-

(A) Para 2.3 is substituted by the following:-

"2.3 Procedure for applying for e-Visa

In order to avail of the facility of e-Visa, the foreign national concerned shall mandatorily fill in the application online on the website <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/tvoa.html>. In case of all e-visas other than e-Tourist and e-Business visas, the applicant can apply 120 days in advance prior to expected date of arrival in India and in such cases, the Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) that will be issued to the applicant will be valid for 120 days from the date of issue. In the case of e-Tourist and e-Business visas, the applicant can submit application without any such restriction and the ETA in such cases will be co-terminus with the visa validity.

There will be no restriction in giving same email ID in number of applications."

(B) In sub-para (i) of para 2.5, for the words "For a period up to one year from the date of first entry into India", the following words shall be substituted:-

"For a period up to one year from the date of issue of Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA)"

4. All other provisions in Chapter 2 of the Visa Manual would remain unchanged and continue to be in effect.

5. These instructions shall come into force with immediate effect.