

Last Updated Aug 28, 2011

**PRESS ADVISORY**

The Ministry of Labour's Social Affairs Department has established an exclusive office to deal with grievances of domestic workers (Drivers, Housemaids, Gardeners, Shepherds and farm workers) in Jeddah. All Indian expatriate workers falling under this category may approach this office for redressing their grievances with proper documentations ( Work Contract Copy, Passport Copy, Iqama Copy, Contact address and telephone number of the *Khafil* (Sponsors/Employer). The petitions should be in Arabic along with the supporting documents.

The expatriate workers may kindly note the Office address as below:

**Office of the Domestic Workers Committee**

**Near Sofitel Hotel, Palestine Road, Jeddah**

**Tel No. 6616688 Fax No. 6653238**

**Composite Consular-cum-Community Welfare Tour to Taif  
on 18th August, 2011 by Indian Consulate, Jeddah**

A Team from the Consulate General of India, Jeddah would be visiting **Taif on 18th August, 2011** to provide consular services (**limited to attestation and passport services not being provided by the outsourced agencies**) to the Indian nationals, **on 18th August, 2011 (Thursday)** from **0900 to 1300 hrs and 1700 to 2000 hrs at Hotel Al-Barraq, (Tel. No. 7360610)** **The Indian nationals may note that a representative of Outsourced Agencies would also be present at the site.** The Indian nationals residing in the area may, therefore, avail the opportunity to apply for the consular service, to meet the visiting officials and also to convey their grievances/suggestions, if any, issues relating to labour, welfare and Outsourced agencies. They should bring along with them written statement narrating their problems for redressal of their grievances, including consular related services.

### **Padma Awards from Indian nationals**

Government of India gives Padma awards i.e. Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri for exceptional and distinguished services in any field including service rendered by the Government servants. The awards are announced every year by the Government of India on the eve of Republic Day. Government receives recommendations for Padma Awards from various sources including Indian nationals and community organisations.

Consulate General of India invites nominations from the Indian Community Organisations and Indian nationals residing in the jurisdiction of this Consulate if they feel any individual merits the Padma Award.

### **Tracing the Roots Scheme**

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi has launched a scheme called "*Tracing the Roots*" to facilitate People of Indian Origin (PIO) in tracing their roots in India. PIOs who intend to trace their roots in India, need to apply in prescribed form through the Indian Mission / Consulate in the country of their residence after paying the prescribed fee. For further details Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs' website <http://moia.gov.in> may be visited.

### **Composite Consular-cum-Community Welfare Tour to Abha on 04<sup>th</sup> August, 2011 by Indian Consulate, Jeddah**

A Team from the Consulate General of India, Jeddah would be visiting Abha on 04<sup>th</sup> August, 2011 (Thursday) to provide consular services (limited to attestation and passport services not being provided by the outsourced agencies) to the Indian nationals, from 0900 to 1300 hrs. and 1700 to 2000 hrs. at Hotel Al-Rayyah (Telephone: 07-2270654). The Indian nationals may note that a representative of Outsourced Agencies would also be present at the site. The Indian nationals residing in the area may, therefore, avail the opportunity to apply for the consular service, to meet the visiting officials and also to convey their grievances/suggestions, if any, issues relating to labour, welfare and Outsourced agencies. They should bring along with them written statement narrating their problems for redressal of their grievances, including consular related services.

## Online Passport Status Enquiry

In its continuous pursuit to provide better passport-related services to the Indian community residing in its jurisdiction, Consulate General of India, Jeddah plans to host a passport application's status enquiry web-page on its website ([www.cgijeddah.com](http://www.cgijeddah.com)). This would help applicants to check the status of their passport application, with the help of their application receipt number, thus making the passport services more transparent and responsive.

CGI, Jeddah envisages more such steps in the near future to improve its service standards.

## Know India Programme

Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi is conducting the “**Know India Programme**” (KIP) for **People of Indian Origin (PIO)**. The details are as below:

- KIP is open to youth of Indian origin who is in the age group of 18-26 years
- NRIs are **not** eligible
- The applicant should hold a graduate degree or studying for graduation
- The applicant should be able to converse in English
- The content of the programme: Presentation of the country, political process, developments in various sectors, interaction with faculty and students at a prestigious University/College, presentation on India's industrial developments, visits to some industries, Visit to a village to understand the typical village life and exposure to Indian media, visit to places of historical importance, participation in cultural programme and call on high dignitaries.
- Selected participants would be required to purchase air ticket for their journey from the country of residence to India and back and 90% of the fare would be reimbursed later.
- For 2011-12, Know India Programme, Goa and Rajasthan are the partner States
- The tentative date to visit Goa will be from 20.8.2011 to 9.9.2011 and the last date to submit nominations is on 30.6.2011
- The tentative date to visit Rajasthan will be from 21.12.2011 to 10.1.2012 and the last date to submit nomination is on 15.10.2011.

For further details, the applicants may meet Vice Consul(CW), Consulate General of India, Jeddah.

For more information, please visit Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs' web site: [www.moia.gov.in](http://www.moia.gov.in)

## **Press Advisory**

The Chief Electoral Officer of Madhya Pradesh Parliamentary Constituency has placed elections notifications along with the list of Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) at [www.ceomadhyapradesh.nic.in](http://www.ceomadhyapradesh.nic.in).

The NRI expatriates community voters belong to the State of Madhya Pradesh is requested to avail this opportunity to register themselves with the respective EROs in Madhya Pradesh by submitting Form 6-A along with their self attested Passport copies.

## **Press Advisory**

According to Deportation Centre authorities (*Tarheel*), Jeddah, the extended Royal Amnesty announced by the Kingdom is applicable only to the following three categories of expatriates:-

**Haj Overstayers**

**Umra Overstayers**

**Visit Visa Overstayers**

Indian nationals who fall under the above categories should have to approach the Deportation Centre (*Tarheel*) directly with their Passports and air ticket to get the exit visa stamped on their travel documents after finger prints scan. All are requested to avail the amnesty before **14.9.2011** without fail.

## **Meeting of Consul General with Indian nationals**

Consulate General of India in Jeddah attaches high priority to the welfare of the Indian expatriate community residing in its jurisdiction. The Consulate has taken several steps in past to protect the interest of Indian community and to provide them best possible services.

With the intention of addressing the concerns of Indian nationals and in order to increase interaction between Consulate and Indian expatriate community residing in the jurisdiction of this Consulate, Shri Faiz Ahmad Kidwai, Consul General, will be available on **Saturdays and Wednesdays from 1000 to 1100 hours** for meeting with Indian nationals without prior appointment.

The Indian nationals living in the jurisdiction of this Consulate may utilize this opportunity for Redressal of their grievances.

### **'INVEST INDIA' - A Guide for Foreign Investors**

With a view to facilitating foreign investment into the country, the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce, has set up a joint venture company called 'Invest India' in partnership with FICCI and State Governments. Acting as a first reference point, 'Invest India' will assist investors in accessing relevant information on investment policies and procedures, tax rates, skill availability, facilities provided by states, investment opportunities in different sectors, list of consultants, etc. In addition, it will help investors in setting up their businesses in India. For this purpose, it will coordinate with state governments on availability of land for industrial use, help in creating an investor friendly environment in states and establish a network with investors and consulting organizations. The company would also undertake promotional work to attract foreign investments. Its website can be viewed at [www.investindia.gov.in](http://www.investindia.gov.in).

### **OVERSEAS WORKERS RESOURCE CENTRE (OWRC )**

Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has taken various measures for educating emigrants, particularly the vulnerable Category, about emigration procedures, the risks involved in irregular migration and the precautions to be taken while seeking overseas employment. To this end the Ministry had established an Overseas Workers Resource Centre (OWRC) on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2008 during the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas. The Centre provides need based information and assistance to emigrants. It operates a 24/7 toll free helpline (1800 11 3090).

Now an International toll free No. 800 091 202 53 has been added by the OWRC for the benefit of Indian emigrant workers and other information seekers in the three countries in the Gulf namely UAE, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. This international toll free number can be reached 24/7 from these three countries.

### **ADVISORY (For Indian nationals who are in the process of obtaining nationality of other country or have already obtained citizenship of other country)**

Indian passport holders are required to surrender their passports to the nearest Indian Embassy/Consulate immediately after acquisition of foreign nationality as

Indian Citizenship Act does not allow dual citizenship (there is sometimes misconception that Overseas Citizenship of India Card is dual citizenship). However, it has been observed that many individuals continue to retain their Indian passports and some even use to travel on Indian passports; there are yet others who get fresh Indian passports issued by suppression of information even several years after they acquired foreign citizenship. Since misuse of the Indian Passports, as described above, constitute offences under Section 12(1A) of the Passport Act 1967, the Government of India decided to impose penalty on a graded scale for such violations as per details given below:

**S. No.**

**Scenario**

**Penalty**

1.

Passport not surrendered up to three years and not used for travel after obtaining foreign passport.

No penalty

2.

Passport not surrendered up to three years and traveled once after obtaining foreign passport.

No penalty for retention of passport but penalty of Rs.10,000/- for travel on Indian Passport

3.

Passport not surrendered up to three years and traveled more than once after obtaining foreign passport

No penalty for retention of passport but penalty of

Rs.10,000/- for each travel on Indian Passport (**aggregate penalty on travel not to exceed Rs. 50,000/-**)