Japanese nationals to get a visa-on-arrival in India for business, tourism, conference and medical purposes

Background

The e-Tourist visa facility currently allows Japanese nationals to visit India by obtaining an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA). The application for ETA needs to be submitted online, at least, four days in advance from the date of arrival in India with a window of 30 days\(^1\).

To further strengthen the ties between India and Japan, the Government of India vide Circular\(^2\) has announced a visa-on-arrival facility for Japanese nationals with effect from 1 March 2016.

Key features

- The immigration officer may grant a single-entry visa-on-arrival to the Japanese national on submission of the prescribed application and payment of fees\(^3\) at designated airports\(^4\) in India.

- It would be granted on the fulfillment of certain conditions such as assured financial standing, passport validity of at least six months, etc.

- It shall be valid for 30 days, and the facility can be availed up to a maximum of two times in a calendar year for business, tourism, conference and medical purposes.

- Once issued upon arrival, the visa cannot be extended in India. However, the visa can be converted into an Entry(X) Visa/medical visa on the satisfaction of the prescribed conditions.

Our comments

The India-Japan relationship has been steadfastly developing, and this announcement is a significant step towards extending flexibility and ease for Japanese nationals planning their visit to India.

Source: [http://mha.nic.in](http://mha.nic.in) dated 24 February 2016

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\(^1\) [https://indianvisaportal.gov.in/visa/voa.html](https://indianvisaportal.gov.in/visa/voa.html)

\(^2\) Circular No. 467, dated 22 February 2016

\(^3\) INR2,000 or equivalent in foreign currency

\(^4\) Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Hyderabad
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