

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
PASSPORT OFFICE

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Press Release

Government has decided to phase out signing of passports in ink by authorized officer and replace it with stamped signature of issuing authority in accordance with international norms. The stamp on passports will consist of facsimile Signature of Passport Officer, Name, Designation and Office of the Passport Issuing Authority in addition to the round seal of Government of India. The new system will take effect from 01.08.2014. This will help in freeing the officials involved in signing and also enable faster delivery of passport services to applicants.

2. In order to further streamline the procedures & processes involved in issuance of Passports, Passport Office Visakhapatnam will henceforth accept following address proofs with the approval of competent authority.

List of acceptable proofs of address

- A. Water/Telephone(landline or post paid mobile bill)/Electricity bill
- B. Proof of Gas Connection / House Rental or Lease Agreement
- C. Income tax assessment order of last 2 years
- D. Statement of running bank account (Public Sector Banks) along with the pass book & photo
- E. Election Commission Photo ID card
- F. Aadhar Card
- G. Ration Card along with Residence Certificate issued by MRO
- H. Spouse's passport copy (provided the applicant's present address matches the address mentioned in the spouse's passport) along with Marriage certificate.
- I. In case of minors, parents' passport copy will be enough as address proof.

Note:

- If any applicant is submitting address proof as indicated in A/B/C, then it should be accompanied by at least one photo ID proof viz PAN card, Driving License, Election Commission Photo ID card, Aadhar card etc. Names on the Identity proof and Address proof should match.
- For Water/Telephone/Electricity Bills as address proof – At least two bills should be submitted – one bill should be of previous year and one bill of the present year.

3. The above measure will benefit the passport applicants immensely especially those who migrate to towns and cities for education or employment purpose. This will also encourage the applicants to apply with correct present address details without resorting to illegal means.

4. It may be re-iterated that Police enquiry needs to be done at all places where applicant has resided during last one year. Applicant needs to mention all addresses during the last one year, in his application form. However, passport applicant needs to submit only current address proof with the application form.

Sd/-

(N.L.P Choudary)
Passport Officer
Visakhapatnam