

The following change in policy is proposed by Permits Foundation:

**1. NEW VISA CATEGORY FOR INTRA-CORPORATE TRANSFEREES**

- i. A specific visa category (E1) for established skilled employees who are transferred to work in India by a company or international organisation.<sup>1</sup>
- ii. The E1 visa would be a non-immigrant visa, valid for the period of employment up to three years, renewable for an additional two years, i.e. the maximum validity is 5 years.
- iii. The E1 visa would be applicable to employees of an international company which has offices in both another country and India, or which intends to open a new office in India while maintaining their other country interests. The relationship between the two organisations would be either parent, subsidiary, branch or affiliate.
- iv. Expatriate employees of Indian multinational companies, approved by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs or equivalent authority, with offices abroad would also be eligible for this category of visa.
- v. The intra-corporate transferee must have been employed continuously by the company that plans to transfer him or her, outside India for at least six months immediately preceding the date of application.
- vi. The E1 Visa would cease to be valid when the employment ends. Should the employee wish to move to a new employer in India, outside the same group of companies, he or she would need to return to the home country to apply for a new Employment visa.

**2. NEW CATEGORY FOR SPOUSE OF INTRA-CORPORATE TRANSFEREE**

- i. A specific visa category (XE1) for the spouse of E1 visa holders.
- ii. The spouse with an XE1 visa would be allowed to take any employment subject to:
  - Registration with the FRRO within 14 days of arrival in India for stays in excess of 180 days.
  - Intimation to FRRO within 14 days of change in location within India.

- Securing approval from FRRO for employment in companies or sectors where special permission is required from MHA for all E visas.
  - Will not take up employment in any sector treated as restricted and disallowed to all E visas by the MHA.
- v. An XE1 Visa would be co-terminus with the E1 Visa.
- iv. An XE1 Visa would cover all types of legal employment and self-employment, paid or voluntary, full-time or part-time, work from home, work with NGOs, research fellowships, guest programs, project assignments and offshore work.

**Note<sup>1</sup>**

Public sector international organizations employ international staff on an Official visa. It is proposed that the accompanying spouses of internationally transferred employees on an Official visa would be similarly granted permission to take all types of legal employment.

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Permits Foundation.