

No.25022/15/2009-F-I
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
(Foreigners Division)

Jaisalmer House, 26 Man Singh Road
New Delhi-110011, Dated: 29.7.2009

Subject: Accreditation facility in respect of approved Commonwealth Games Family Members (CGFMs) for participation in XIX Commonwealth Games to be held from October 3-14, 2010, in Delhi.

The Government of India has accorded its approval for XIX Commonwealth Games to be hosted in Delhi in October 2010.

2. Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India vide their letter dated 24th May 2003 has guaranteed free entry to India of all accredited athletes and delegates of participating countries in the said Games and also assured that the Games will be organized in accordance with the constitution, protocols and regulations of the Commonwealth Games Federation.

3. The Host City Contract was signed on 13th November 2003 between Government of India through Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Indian Olympic Association, through its President, Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi through Lt. Governor with Commonwealth Games Federation for organising and hosting of XIX Commonwealth Games in Delhi.

4. In accordance with the above provisions and as part of the obligations under the Host City Contract, the Commonwealth Games are to be held from October 03 to 14, 2010. The Commonwealth Games Delhi 2010 will have more than 8000 participants from 71 Commonwealth Games Associations (CGAs).

5. Ministry of External Affairs vide their letter dated 4th August 2003 have informed that in accordance with international practice, the Accreditation Card of participating athletes (accredited officials) managers, coaches, doctors, technical officials and dignitaries of the International Federations, CGAs, media specially invited by the Organising Committee (OC) for Commonwealth Games will be treated as a visa.

6. Ministry of Home Affairs vide their letter dated 22.7.2009 has agreed to treat NVP (Non validated pass) as multiple entry visa to India from September 3 – November 13, 2010 for Commonwealth Games in Delhi in October 2010.

7. Bureau of Civil Aviation Security vide their letter No. CAS-7(9) 2004-DIV-1, dated 12.6.2006 (Circular No. 4/2006) has issued necessary guidelines with regard to carriage of licensed firearms and/or ammunition by a sportsperson while travelling by air.

8. Ministry of Home Affairs vide their letter No. V-11026/47/2007-Arms(Pt.), dated 23rd February, 2009, have issued SOP for arms and ammunition to be used for XIX Commonwealth Games to be hosted in Delhi between 3-14 October, 2010, requiring the Organising Committee to keep the following points in view :

- i) It should be ensured by the Organising Committee that the sports weapons allowed for import by the Custom Authorities should be exported back at the time of final departure of the sports person concerned.
- ii) The ammunition consumed during the Games should be properly accounted for by the Organising Committee and utilization certificate may be issued at the end of the Games.
- iii) Proper security measures should be taken by the Organising Committee with the help of Delhi Police and other security agencies from the time of arrival in India to departure of weapons and ammunition.

9. Ministry of Home Affairs is hereby issuing this circular to outline the arrangements and the requirements/procedures for accreditation in respect of approved CGFMs.

10. The Commonwealth Games related office contact details are:

<p>OC Commonwealth Games Delhi 2010</p> <p>New Delhi Palika Kendra-II, Opp. Jantar Mantar, New Delhi- 110001, INDIA Tel : +91-11-41632010 Fax : +91-11-41642010 Email: visadelhi@cwgdelhi2010.org</p> <p>Website: www.cwgdelhi2010.org</p>	<p>Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)</p> <p>Deputy Secretary (PV.II) Ministry of External Affairs, Patiala House Annexe, New Delhi Tel-fax : +91-11- 23315695</p>
<p>Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)</p> <p>Deputy Secretary (F), Ministry of Home Affairs, Jaisalmer House, Man Singh Road, New Delhi Tel: +91-11-23381374 Fax: +91-11-23383888 Email : pvsivaraman@nic.in</p>	<p>Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)</p> <p>Regional Dy.Commissioner of Security (CA) Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, Mahipalpur, New Delhi Tel: 91-11-25652486, Fax : 011-25652486</p>

ISSUE OF NON-VALIDATED PASS (Pre validated accreditation card)

11. The participation in the Commonwealth Games Delhi 2010 is subject to an Accreditation Process.

ACCREDITATION PROCESS -

12. A Non-validated Pass (NVP) will be issued to approved Commonwealth Games Family Members (CGFMs) for participation for the Games and this card will also be used for their entry into India. Information provided in the Accreditation Application (i.e. name, Date of Birth, parentage, nationality etc.) will be used for issuing the NVP, which will be converted into Commonwealth Games Accreditation Card after arrival into India.

TIME SCHEDULE FOR RECEIVING ACCREDITATION APPLICATIONS -

13. The tentative time schedule for accreditation applications will be as follows:

Form Name/Category	Online Date	Last date for on line submission to OC CWG, Delhi 2010
Accreditation (Athlete & Team Management Information)	1 st April 2010	30 th June 2010
Accreditation Summary	1 st April 2010	30 th June 2010
Profile Form for Athlete/Coach/Team Leader	1 st April 2010	30 th June 2010
VIP Information	1 st April 2010	30 th June 2010
VIP Accreditation	1 st April 2010	30 th June 2010
Media Accreditation	1 st April 2010	30 th June 2010
Arrival/Departure	1 st April 2010	30 th June 2010
Eligibility & Entry Form	1 st April 2010	30 th June 2010

14. After receiving the applications from CGAs, the OC will process and submit these applications to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for security clearance / vetting by Intelligence Bureau (IB) and R&AW.

15. The tentative time schedule for submission of applications (in electronic format) of participating athletes, officials, CGF Members etc. to the Ministry of Home Affairs seeking vetting by IB and R&AW will be as follows:

Applications of the participants	Date of submission of application to IB and R&AW for security clearance	Date for granting Security clearance to the applicants to be provided by IB and R&AW
1 st list	1 st May 2010	15 th June, 2010
2 nd list	10 th May 2010	25 th June, 2010
3 rd list	20 th May 2010	5 th July, 2010
4 th list	1 st June 2010	16 th July, 2010
Final list	1 st July 2010	16 th August, 2010

(Security clearance for all participants from Intelligence Bureau and R&AW will be furnished to OC CWG latest by 16th August 2010)

16. The security cleared information by IB and R&AW would then be sent to MHA to be forwarded to OC for issue of NVPs. The NVP (pre-validated accredited card) will allow entry into India along with valid travel document (passport). The passport should be valid at least until 31st March 2011.

17. The CGAs are being informed to maintain strict compliance of above mentioned time schedule for submitting their respective accreditation applications to OC for issue of NVPs.

18. Non-validated Passes (NVP) will be issued to the following categories/ population of Commonwealth Games Family International Members:

Athletes / Team Officials (including Extra Officials)	Athletes, Team leader (Chef de Mission, GTM), Team Officials
CGF	Executive Board, Sports Committee, Life Vice Presidents, Medical Commission, Staff Guests of the CGF Executive Board
VIPs/IPPs/Guests	Queen + Members of Monarch, Members of Royal Families Worldwide, Presidents, Prime Ministers, Head of States, Ministers, Mayors, Honoured Guests
CGAs	President, Secretary General, Executive Board Members of CGAs, Guests of President/Secretary General, Nominees of CGA, Guest of CGAs
International Federations	International Federations - President / Secretary General, International Federations – Delegates, Asian Sports Federations – President/Secretary General, Asian Sports Federations – Delegates
Technical Officials	Jury, Technical Officials, Technical Delegates
Media-Press & Photographers	Journalists (Print & Visual), Photographers, International Media Agencies

Broadcasters	Rights Holding Broadcasters
Observers & Secondees	Representatives from the next CWG/CYG Government Representatives from Commonwealth Nations Rep. Of Olympic Games & other Major World Events
WADA (World Anti Doping Agency)	Representatives from WADA
Sponsors/Corporates	Major International Sponsors
Contractors & Suppliers	Major International Contractors & Suppliers who are accredited as per CGF guidelines

19. The accreditation process will be in accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Accreditation Manual issued by the Organising Committee, Commonwealth Games, Delhi 2010.

20. The sample NVP will be prepared shortly and will be submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs etc. Ministry of Home Affairs hereby confirms that NVP card issued by the Organising Committee will be accepted by all respective agencies in India.

21. This circular puts in place the accreditation process with the intention of bringing total clarity on the issue which is critical for ensuring smooth operation of arrival of CGFMs into India for Commonwealth Games, Delhi 2010.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR COMMONWEALTH GAMES ASSOCIATIONS (CGAs)

22. Commonwealth Games Non Validated Pass (NVP) will be issued to each of the approved team members and invited guests enabling the holder(s) to enter and remain in India from 03 September to 13 November 2010 for the Commonwealth Games.

23. The NVP is an authority to travel to India and as such will not appear as a visa in the holder's passport. The holder of NVP will be able to board their flight and enter India without any problems.

24. In some countries where boarding systems may not recognise the NVP, the holder may face problems in boarding flights or transiting through some countries enroute to India. To avoid such incidents, the Government of India will have nodal officers in the Indian Missions located in 17 major countries which are key transit hubs. The contact details of the nodal officers would be made available by the Ministry of External Affairs to the Organising Committee and through them to the Commonwealth Games Associations. The Nodal officers would be available on phone, fax or email round the clock during the lead up to the Games for addressing any issues that may arise during travel of Commonwealth Games Teams to India.

INDIAN VISA

NON-VALIDATED PASS (NVP) WILL ACT AS AN INDIAN VISA

25. Every approved CGFMs who seeks to enter India must have an appropriate authority (NVP or valid visa). NVP issued by the Organising Committee, CWG will be accepted by the Bureau of Indian Immigration, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security at all borders of India

26. The Commonwealth Games NVP will also be treated as an authority for travel to India without a visa on passport.

NVP HOLDERS NEED NOT APPLY SEPARATELY FOR AN INDIAN VISA TO ENTER INDIA.

REQUIREMENTS TO OBTAIN NVP:

VALIDITY OF PASSPORT

27. All CGFMs will need to carry their passports with them to gain entry into India. Individuals entering into India using their NVP should ensure that their passport is valid at least until 31st March 2011 and that the details on their passport match those on the NVP.

EARLIER ARRIVAL OR LATER DEPARTURE

28. A Commonwealth Games NVP will not cover CGFMs for entry into India prior to 03 September 2010 or for staying in India after 13 November 2010.

29. It is important to note that where CGFMs seek to travel to India before 03 September 2010 or intend to stay in India beyond 13 November 2010, they must apply for an appropriate visa through Indian Mission abroad or to the Foreigners Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, if in India. The OC CWG Delhi may be intimated in order to facilitate the visa for early arrival or later departure.

30. It may be noted that necessary action would be taken against the CGFMs who overstays beyond the normal visa period, as per existing guidelines of the Indian Immigration Authorities.

ROLE OF OVERSEAS INDIAN MISSIONS:

31. The Organising Committee has communicated to Ministry of External Affairs to request all High Commissions/Consulates to nominate a Games Contact Officer (Nodal Officer). The contact details of nominated officer may be notified to OC, CWG. The High Commissions/Consulates are also requested to report on any Games-related issues directly to Ministry of External Affairs/OC CWG Delhi 2010.

32. In the lead up to the Games, it is critical that overseas High Commissions/Consulates establish strong relationships with national sporting federations and Commonwealth Games Associations under their regions of responsibility. They will assist with visa processing and checking of bona fides of athletes and officials coming to India to participate in sporting events or training prior to the Games.

33. While overseas High Commissions/Consulates will not have a direct role to play in processing NVPs for CGFMs, they have the important role of helping to educate Commonwealth Games Associations about the special immigration entry arrangements in place (NVP) so that CGFMs have minimal problems boarding aircraft bound for India. Overseas High Commissions/Consulates will also have an important role to play in educating airlines and local authorities about these arrangements.

34. Commonwealth Games Contact Officers will be designated at many Indian High Commissions/Consulates in Commonwealth countries. These officers will work closely with local CGAs to ensure that issues, if any, are dealt with in a timely and expeditious manner.

ISSUE OF VISA ON PRIORITY

35. In case, CGAs could not get the NVP/last minute changes of their team members, their officials may contact the respective High Commissions/Consulates of Indian Missions for the facilitation of CGAs visa on top priority. Necessary instructions in this regard will be issued separately by MEA.

ROLE OF FOREIGN MISSIONS IN INDIA :

36. In emergent circumstances, it will immensely help the OC to seek assistance of the Foreign Missions in India (High Commissions/Consulates/Embassies including countries with major transit hubs) for bonafide athletes and officials for their to and fro journey to India to participate in the Games. Since the Foreign Missions in India are the representative offices of their respective Governments their support of providing/facilitating services will be required for immediate action/resolution.

37. In a similar manner, the role of foreign mission/s in India would be critical for CGFMs seeking transit visas, consular services, etc. In this regard, the OC will approach the foreign Missions in India, by adequately keeping MHA (Foreigners Division) and MEA in the loop of the developments, for obtaining fast clearances, approvals, etc that may be required from time to time on priority basis.

38. The High Commission/Consulate/Embassy will also have an important role of helping to educate on the special immigration entry arrangements in place (NVP) by forwarding a copy of this circular to all Immigration, Customs and Airline Offices in their respective countries/regions.

TLF (TEMPORARY LANDING FACILITY)

39. The athletes/officials who would be coming to India with non-possession of their NVPs/valid visas for any reason or who should have been accredited but have still not been accredited for any reason, will be issued a Temporary Landing Facility (TLF) (on Gratis basis) for entry into India to participate in the Games. Advance intimation to the Immigration Authorities will be sent with detailed particulars of participants requiring Gratis Temporary Landing Facility (TLF) before their arrival in India.

PROCEDURE FOR GRANT OF TLF

40. Prior to arrival, identities of athletes/officials will be verified by the Organising Committee and their information will be furnished to the Immigration Authorities through Ministry of Home Affairs for grant of TLF to all bonafide athletes/officials and guests of CGF on their arrival in India, who are not in possession of NVP or valid visa.

41. All CGAs are being informed to intimate the names of such members, subject to giving an advance intimation of 72 hours to the Organising Committee, Commonwealth Games Delhi 2010 which will be communicated to the Ministry of Home Affairs to issue instructions to the Immigration Authorities at Delhi and Mumbai Airports and to the Immigration Authorities of the concerned Immigration Checkposts.

42. A Control Cell (24x7) in this regard will be set up by the Organising Committee, CWG Delhi 2010 to facilitate this special arrangement, which will have representatives from Ministry of Home Affairs, Bureau of Immigration, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Civil Aviation, R&AW and Bureau of Civil Aviation Security with effect from 20th September to 20th October, 2010.

AIRLINES / OVERSEAS IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES

43. In case the Airlines / Overseas Immigration Authorities have any doubt for visa/entry into India of the NVP cardholder, the airline may contact control cell for necessary advice. The details of the control cell are enclosed.

44. Quick resolution is critical so that genuine CGFMs can be granted a NVP prior to arrival at the borders and not delayed in immigration clearance.

CONTROL CELL –

45. To facilitate the NVP holder, Centralised Operation Desks will be set up at Delhi and Mumbai Airports and its Control Cell (24x7) will be at the following address:

OC Commonwealth Games Delhi 2010

Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL)

New Delhi- 110037, INDIA

Tel : +91-11-41632010

Fax : +91-11-41642010

Email : visadelhi@cwgdelhi2010.org

Website: www.cwgdelhi2010.org

46. As it is a priority of Bureau of Indian Immigration that genuine CGFMs successfully board their aircraft and gain entry into India, the Control Cell will have a critical role to play in resolving issues that may arise at both the uplift stages when NVPs for Commonwealth Games Family members come into effect.

47. In the lead up to and during the Games, the Control Cell will also act as the contact point for other agencies seeking Bureau of Indian Immigration's assistance. The Control Cell will alert the appropriate Bureau of Indian Immigration contact officer for the eventuality concerned. The Control Cell will be provided with additional staffing as required to meet the increased demand.

48. It is clarified that all ICPs and Control Cells at Delhi & Mumbai would remain open for entry/exit of Commonwealth Games Family Members (CGFMs) and advance intimation regarding grant of TLF would be sent to Immigration Authorities at Delhi & Mumbai Airports and to the Immigration Authorities of the concerned Immigration Checkposts.

49. Organising Committee will depute dedicated volunteers who will be managing desks at Delhi and Mumbai Airports to help resolve any difficulty for the arrivals of CGAs and for their Customs/Immigration clearances.

50. The Organising Committee will also depute and manage Volunteers to ensure the lawful and orderly entry of athletes, officials and visitors in the period leading up to and during the Commonwealth Games, Delhi, 2010.

(P.V.Sivaraman)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

To

1. All Indian Missions/Posts abroad through the Ministry of External Affairs.
2. Ministry of External Affairs (CPV Division), Patiala House Annexe with a request to sensitize all Indian Missions/Posts and concerned Foreign Missions in India.
3. Ministry of External Affairs (PAI Division), South Block, New Delhi.
4. Ministry of Civil Aviation with the request to sensitize all Airlines/Airports.
5. Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
6. Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, Janpath Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi
7. Bureau of Immigration, New Delhi with the request to sensitize all Immigration Check Posts.
8. Organising Committee, Commonwealth Games, New Delhi Palika Kendra –II, Opp. Jantar Mantar, New Delhi
9. Chief Secretary, Government of NCT of Delhi with the request to sensitize all concerned.
10. DCP(Special Branch), Delhi Police.