SBC

LOCAL CONNECT. GLOBAL OUTLOOK.

Film financing

Contents to be covered

Financing Structures

Under the extant Indian tax laws, taxable entities that engage in film production and distribution, inter alia, include:

- Individuals
- Associations of Persons
- Limited Companies
- Partnerships
- Limited Liability Partnerships.

Modes of Film Financing

Producers engaged in film production in India rely essentially on the following modes of film financing:

- Self-funding
- Advances from distributors against distribution agreements
- Advances from financiers against financing agreements
- Sale of negative rights
- Sale of music rights
- Bank financing
- Venture capital investments
- Equity markets
- Corporate sponsorships and merchandising (including branded entertainment)
- Co-production.

Modes of Film Financing

SBC
LOCAL CONNECT. GLOBAL OUTLOOK.

For distribution agreements, which involve the grant of distribution rights by a producer to the distributor for a particular territory and/or period, the considerations are:

A minimum guaranteed amount

A fixed percentage of commission/royalty on gross collections

A combination of the both

Financing agreements involve receipt of funds by the producers in consideration of:

Interest

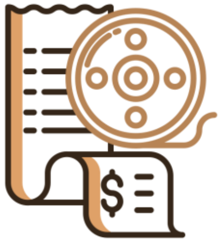
Percentage of receipts/profits

A combination of the both

Such agreements sometimes also provide for share of losses by financiers. Additionally, film producers, distributors, and financiers can raise capital through equity and preference shares, debentures or bonds, deposits, etc.

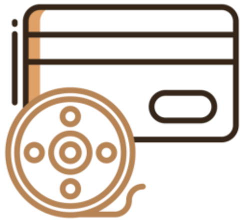
Access to Finance etc., via Film Co-production Treaties

India has concluded sixteen film co-production treaties. Film co-production treaties are entered into with an objective of developing the film industries of the contracting countries, promoting economic and cultural cooperation, and extending national film status to the co-produced film. National film status extends benefits to films in the respective contracting countries such as:



Tax

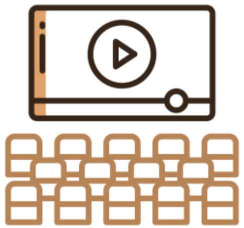
incentives



Access to government funding at nominal interest rates

Regional

grants



Publicity and marketing budgets from the government

Incentives by Government

In India, various state governments are incentivizing filmmakers to shoot films in their respective states. The film industry acts as an important partner for state governments to promote tourism. The incentives offered by local governments include:

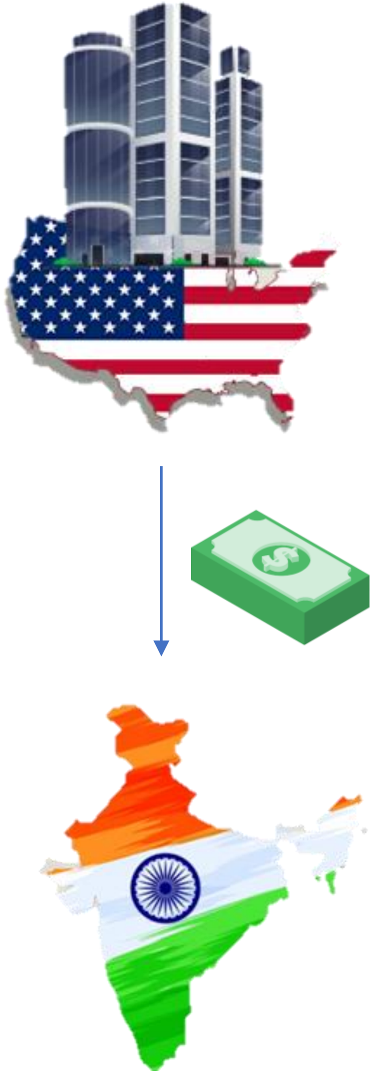
– **Fiscal benefits:** Tax concessions provided to all filmmakers or grants provided to subsidize production costs.

– **Film festivals and awards:** Festivals, exhibitions, etc., to honour filmmakers and events to promote film shooting in states.

– **Facilitation of shooting of films:** Single window clearances for filming at locations, assistance in travel and accommodation, etc.

– **Others:** Film cities/studios, animation films and studios, etc. Several such co-production treaties also take within their ambit third countries, with which the respective contracting countries have entered into other similar agreements, thereby, enabling the participation of such third countries in the agreement entered by the contracting countries. Such treaties with third countries can also be explored for benefits available in those jurisdictions.

Foreign Investment in Indian LLPs



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has incorporated the provisions related to FDI in LLP in FEMA. FDI has been allowed in a calibrated manner in sectors where 100 percent FDI is allowed under the automatic route, i.e., where no prior approval is required and there are no FDI linked performance-related conditions.
- Further, conversion of a company to an LLP is permissible under automatic route subject to the condition that the company having FDI is engaged in a sector where foreign investment up to 100 percent is permitted under automatic route and there are no FDI-linked performance conditions route.
- Pricing of a partner’s interest in an LLP should be as per internationally accepted pricing principles.
- It is also pertinent to note that an Indian LLP, with foreign investment, is permitted to make downward investment in another LLP engaged in sectors in which 100 percent FDI is allowed under the automatic route and there are no FDI-linked performance conditions.
- The existing FDI policy permits 100 percent FDI under automatic route in the film sector. Therefore, as mentioned above, LLPs may be explored as another legal form of doing business in India, especially in the case of co-productions.

Foreign Exchange Regulations

For the purposes of FDI, film sector broadly covers film production, exhibition and distribution, including related services and products.

FDI in the sector is permitted under automatic route, i.e., no prior approval is required and there are no entry-level conditions in the sector. However, investors must comply with certain post filing requirements, i.e., notifying the RBI within 30 days of the receipt of inward remittance in India, filing of certain documents within 30 days of allotment of shares, etc.

Further, price of shares issued/transferred to foreign investors shall not be less than:

In the case of Listed companies

Price worked out in accordance with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) guidelines.

In the case of Unlisted companies

Fair valuation of shares done by a merchant banker or chartered accountant as per internationally accepted pricing methodology; and

Where shares are issued on a preferential allotment basis –

Price determined as per pricing guidelines in terms of SEBI guidelines or as per internationally accepted pricing methodology.

Foreign Exchange Regulations

- Foreign investors seeking to acquire shares of an existing Indian company (engaged in film production, exhibition, or distribution) from the resident shareholders are granted a general permission, subject to compliance with prescribed terms and conditions. This means that a prior approval of the RBI is not required.
- Further, remittance of hiring charges of transponders by TV channels requires prior approval of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. However, approval will not be required where withdrawal is made of funds held in Resident Foreign Currency (RFC) Account or Exchange Earners' Foreign Currency (EEFC) account.

Loans and Borrowings

- Borrowings in foreign currency are governed by the guidelines on External Commercial Borrowings (ECB guidelines) issued by the RBI.
- The film/television sector may not fall into the eligible categories of borrowers, it is unlikely that permission for raising ECBs would be granted to the sector by the RBI.
- Investment can be made with fully and compulsorily convertible preference shares and debentures, which are treated as equity for the purposes of FDI policy.

Deduction of Expenditure

Film Production and Distribution Cost

There are specific rules provided for under the Indian tax laws that govern the deduction of production expenses for feature films and for the acquisition of distribution rights.

As per the prescribed rules, a deduction is permitted for expenditures incurred on production of films or acquisition of distribution rights therein, either in the first year of release or over a period of two years, either based on when the copyrights/distribution rights in films are used or on the date of release of the film.

If film producer who sells the entire exhibition rights of the

He is entitled to a deduction of the entire cost of production incurred in the same year in which the Censor Board certifies the film for release in India. A similar deduction is available to a film distributor for outright sale of the film distribution rights acquired.

Deduction of Expenditure

SBC
LOCAL CONNECT. GLOBAL OUTLOOK.

If film producer who sells the entire exhibition rights of the film

- Film released for at least 90 days before the end of the tax year, can claim a full deduction of specified production costs or specified costs of acquiring distribution rights.
- Film is not released at least 90 days before the end of the tax year, then the costs of production/acquisition costs of the film distributor, limited to the amount earned from the film, shall be allowed as a deduction in the current tax year and the remaining cost shall be allowed in the following year.

the producer does not exhibit the film himself or does not sell or

- Where the producer does not exhibit the film himself or does not sell, lease, or transfer the film on a minimum guarantee basis or the distributor does not exhibit the film commercially or does not sell/lease the rights of exhibition, no deduction of the cost shall be allowed in the current tax year. The entire cost shall be allowed in the succeeding tax year(s).
- The sale of rights of exhibition also includes the lease of such rights or their transfer on a minimum guarantee basis.

Deduction of Expenditure

As a general rule, all expenses incurred 'wholly and exclusively' for business purposes are deductible. However, there are limits/disallowances on certain types of expenses, such as (illustrative list only):

– Expenses in the nature of interest, royalties, fees for technical service, or any other sum chargeable to tax paid to residents and non-residents on which tax has not been withheld or after withholding has not been deposited with the Government of India within the prescribed time. Disallowance is limited to the extent of 30 percent of expenditure in relation to payments to residents and 100 percent in relation to payments made to non-residents. Deductions, however, will be allowed in the year in which such tax has been deposited with the government treasury subject to fulfilment of prescribed conditions.

– Corporate tax, securities transaction tax, etc.

– Provisions in accounts for specified statutory liabilities pertaining to employees, duties, taxes, and interest on borrowings from financial institutions, not actually paid before the specified date.

– Indirect general and administrative costs of a foreign head office in excess of 5 percent of taxable income (before unabsorbed depreciation, etc; and

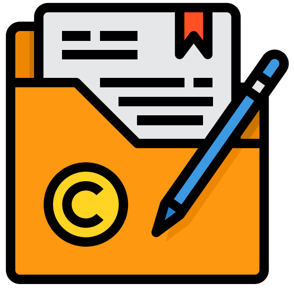
– Expenditures on social welfare activities (Corporate Social Responsibility)

LOCAL CONNECT. GLOBAL OUTLOOK.

WITHHOLDING TAX

Withholding Tax

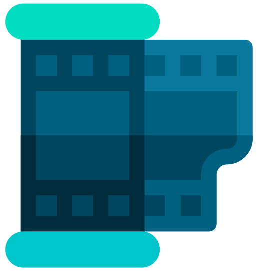
WHT on acquisition of copyright



10% WHT

towards acquisition of copyright on content

WHT on film negative printing



2% WHT

payments for taking out multiple prints would fall under the ambit of 'work

- Payments to an Indian resident towards acquisition of copyright on content (for example, satellite rights, home video rights, music rights, etc.) attracts 10 percent WHT.
- This WHT rate is excessive considering the profit margins prevalent in the industry resulting in an adverse impact on taxpayers' cash flows.
- It could be worthwhile for the government to

- In the case of Yash Raj Films (P) Ltd., the Mumbai Tribunal held that payments for taking out multiple prints of the final negative would qualify as 'work' as per Indian tax laws and not as professional/technical services, as no specialized job is to be done, nor any professional/ technical skill is required for rendering such services to the taxpayer.

Withholding Tax

WHT on professional payments made in kind

NO WHT

"any sum" under the relevant provisions would only mean cash
Not in kind

- In the case of Red Chillies Entertainment, the assessee had gifted certain items to its business associates who had worked for a film.
- Relying on certain judicial precedents of the Supreme Court and High Courts, the Tribunal categorically concluded that the term "any sum" under the relevant provisions would only mean cash amount of money, and since payments are made in kind, there was no requirement to withhold tax.

WHT on Various Payments by TV Channel Companies

Subscription revenues are usually collected by the Indian distributors from MSOs/cable operators and subsequently paid to the FTCs.

Assessee Contention

- The issue relating to WHT on placement charges was decided by the Tribunal in favour of the broadcaster/telecaster in various cases wherein it was held that the placement charges are liable for WHT at the rate of 2 percent as per Indian tax laws.

Tax Authorities contention

- Tax authorities have not accepted the same and are contesting the issue before higher authorities stating that carriage/placement fees involve rendering of technical services and should be taxed as FTS at the rate of 10 percent.

Payments towards production of TV programs

Payments made by Television broadcasting companies to software production houses towards production of TV programs

i. Content is produced as per the specifications provided by the broadcaster/telecaster:

covered within the definition of 'work'

2%

liable for WHT
as per the Indian tax laws.

ii. Broadcaster/telecaster acquires only the broadcasting/telecasting rights of the content which is already produced by the production house:

As there is no contract for carrying out any work

No tax

not liable for WHT
as per Indian tax laws

Transactions between Related Parties

Given the increased linkage between the Indian media players and their counterparts across the globe (coupled with the impressive growth achieved and targeted for the sector), the transactions between Indian players and their related parties overseas have increased manifold each year.

Such related-party transactions come under the purview of transfer pricing (TP) regulations and require the same to be carried out at an arm's length price.

These regulations prescribe mandatory documentation which needs to be maintained annually to justify the arm's length nature of such transactions.

The Indian tax authorities typically scrutinize TP aspects in a fairly large number of cases, and the media and entertainment industry is no exception.

Key factors that need to be considered in the case of related-party transactions and analysis thereof include:

- Comprehensive function, asset and risk analysis to support methodology to determine the arm's-length price;
- Transaction-by-transaction approach; and

Robust Backup Documents and Agreements

- Robust analysis, comprehensive documentation, and clarity in TP policies are of paramount importance.
- The TP policies should be based on thorough functional and economic analysis that identifies the various functions including the value drivers, risks and location of the company's assets.
- The existence of TP documentation, alongside policy and procedural documentation, typically helps in streamlining the discussions with Indian tax authorities.
- As much as it acts as a tool for risk mitigation, it also enables easy fact-finding during scrutiny by authorities, thereby highlighting the transparency maintained by the taxpayer.

Considering the amount of tax litigation in this area, an Advance Pricing Agreements (APA) program was introduced in India in 2012

- It provides the taxpayers with a way of attaining certainty with respect to taxation on their international transactions for a maximum of the next five years
- Option for renewal of the APA for another term of five years, subject to prescribed conditions
- The APA program has seen good success thus far with a large number of applications filed, reflecting heightened optimism from taxpayers.

SBC

LOCAL CONNECT. GLOBAL OUTLOOK.

Broadcasting Industry

Taxation of transponder charges

- Non-resident taxpayers can contribute to avail benefit under tax treaties entered with India to contend that such payments are not in the nature of royalty/ fees for technical services under the tax treaty and hence, not liable to tax in India.
- Further, tribunal decisions, wherein connectivity charges paid to a non-resident are held as not for royalty under the Indian tax laws, could also apply to transponder payments.

Tax Issues for Foreign Television Channels/ Telecasting Companies (FTC)

The two primary sources of revenues for FTCs are income from the sale of advertising airtime on the TV channel and subscription revenues:

1. Taxation of Advertisement Revenues
2. Taxation of Subscription Revenues

Taxation of Advertisement Revenues

Under Indian tax law, advertisement revenue of FTCs is taxable in India, when FTCs have a business connection' to India

Tax treaty

Country in which Foreign Telecasting Companies (FTC) is operating

Taxable only

FTC has Permanent establishment (PE) In India

Taxable only on the income that is attributable to the PE/operations carried out in India.

FTCs generally appoint agents in India for marketing advertisement airtime slots. Agents also facilitate collection of advertisement revenues from advertisers and its remittance abroad. Mumbai Tribunal has held that an Indian company procuring advertisement in India for a foreign company constituted a dependent agent in India.

Taxation of Subscription Revenues

Subscription revenues are usually collected by the Indian distributors from MSOs/cable operators and subsequently paid to the FTCs.

FTC contention

- The payment for grant of distribution rights in the TV channels is not for any copyright and hence is not in the nature of royalty (which is taxable on gross basis at a specified rate).
- FTCs are of the view that the payment is in the nature of business income and is not taxable in India in the absence of any PE in India.

Tax Authorities contention

- The tax authorities hold a contrary view and contend that the subscription revenue is liable to tax as royalties.

DTH Industry

WHT on discount on sale of Set Top Boxes (STBs)/ Recharge Coupon Vouchers (RCVs)

From an income tax perspective, an issue arises vis-à-vis applicability of WHT on the discount given to distributors on the sale of STBs/ RCVs.

Tax authorities contention

- Discount on the sale of STBs/RCVs is in the nature of commission, subject to WHT at the rate of 10 percent under section 194H of the Indian tax laws.

Industry Contention

- Discount is not in the nature of commission and hence, section 194H is not applicable.

Losses

- The Indian tax law permits an offset of losses from one business against the gains of another.
- However, the net unabsorbed business losses can be carried forward and offset against the business profits of the subsequent years, for a maximum period of eight years.
- In the absence of adequate profits, unabsorbed depreciation can also be carried forward and offset against the profits of future years without any time limit.

Other developments/issues impacting the Media and Entertainment (M&E) industry

LOCAL CONNECT. GLOBAL OUTLOOK.

Equalization levy

Payments to non-residents by Indian residents/Indian PEs of non-residents in relation to online advertising and other notified services shall attract equalization levy at the rate of 6 percent if the aggregate payment to a party during the year exceeds INR 100,000.

Place of Effective Management (POEM)

A company having turnover or gross receipts exceeding INR 500 million shall now be considered as 'resident' if its POEM is in India. The government has issued guiding principles for determining POEM.

Amendments in tax treaties

Taxation of capital gains arising from transfer of shares changed from residence-based taxation to sourced-based taxation.

- Limitation of Benefit clauses have been introduced/modified in the Mauritius/ Singapore tax treaties specifying the conditions necessary for the taxpayer to satisfy to avail the treaty benefit.
- With this, the government has sought to plug the tax loopholes exploited by companies to avail tax benefits under these treaties vis-à-vis capital gains.

Residential Status

A person would be Indian Resident for the purposes of the Income Tax Act if any of the below mentioned two conditions are satisfied:

- He/she is in India for 120 days or more during the financial year.

  (OR)

- If he/ she is in India for at least 365 days during preceding 4 years AND at least 60 days in that previous year.

So, if any of these conditions are not satisfied then the person will be considered as NON-RESIDENT INDIAN for Income Tax purposes.

TREATMENT REGARDING AMOUNT PAID TO FOREIGN ARTISTS / FOREIGN TECHNICIANS.

Treatment Regarding Amount Paid To Foreign Artists

Situation 1: Amount is paid as Fee for Technical Services (FTS) and TDS is deducted by Assessee

Nature of income	Income-tax Act, 1961	DTAA benefit	PAN
Fee for Technical Services	10% plus surcharge and cess	Not taken 10% plus surcharge and cess	No PAN required to be obtained by such technicians

- Technicians not required to file a return of income in India.
- Technicians to claim credit of tax deducted in return to be filed in the country of residence.

Treatment Regarding Amount Paid To Foreign Artists

Situation 2: Amount is paid as Fee for Technical Services and TDS is not deducted by the Assessee due to DTAA benefit

Nature of income	Income-tax Act, 1961	DTAA benefit	PAN
Fee for Technical Services	**10%** plus surcharge and cess	Not taxable (Benefit taken)	PAN required to be obtained by such technicians

TDS	No TDS required to be deducted by the assessee.

- Technicians to file a Return of Income in India to claim the DTAA benefit.
- Agreement between assessee and Technicians to provide that no technology is made available to

Treatment Regarding Amount Paid To Foreign Artists

Situation 3: Where amount paid to foreign artists are NOT considered as FTS and treated as payment to actors and TDS is deducted by the Assessee

Nature of income	Income-tax Act, 1961	DTAA benefit	PAN
Fee for actors	Taxable @ slab rates	Not taken	PAN to be obtained by actors / entities

TDS		
TDS required to be deducted by the assessee.	**30%**	plus surcharge and cess if paid to Foreign Individuals
	40%	plus surcharge and cess if paid to non-individuals i.e., foreign entities.

- Return of Income to be filed by actors/entities in India
- Actors/entities shall claim credit of taxes in the return to be filed in the country of

Treatment Regarding Amount Paid To Foreign Artists

Situation 4: Where amount paid to foreign artists are NOT considered as FTS and treated as payment to actors and TDS is not deducted by the Assessee due to DTAA benefit

Nature of income	Income-tax Act, 1961	DTAA benefit	PAN
Fee for actors	Taxable @ slab rates	Not taxable (Benefit taken)	PAN required to be obtained by such technicians

TDS	No TDS required to be deducted by the assessee.

- Technicians to file a Return of Income in India to claim the DTAA benefit.
- Agreement between assessee and Technicians to provide that no technology is made available to

Treatment Regarding Amount Paid To Foreign Artists

In all the above four situations, Foreign Technicians / Artists need to provide the below details:

1	2	3	4
			
name, e-mail id, contact number.	address in the country or specified territory outside India of which the deductee is a resident.	Tax Residency Certificate (TRC)	Tax Identification Number in the country of residence

Summary

- As per Income-tax Act provisions, TDS @ 10% is applicable only on payments in the nature of Fee for Technical Services.
- However, payment to Actors may not be falling under FTS as they may not provide any technical services.
- Hence, it is imperative that the agreement between foreign actors and assessee contains that actors provide technical services so that 10% TDS can continue. In this case, assessee would be required to undertake compliances as mentioned in Situation 1 & 2.
- Where the agreement does not contain FTS, assessee would be required to deduct TDS @ 30% plus surcharge & cess.
- During tax scrutiny proceedings, assessee would be required to submit aforesaid documentation. If not submitted, the Company may be exposed to penal consequences & interest liability.

FOREIGN TAX CREDIT

Foreign Tax Credit

(1) An assessee, being a resident shall be allowed a credit for the amount of any foreign tax paid by him in a country or specified territory outside India, by way of deduction or otherwise, in the year in which the income corresponding to such tax has been offered to tax or assessed to tax in India, in the manner and to the extent as specified

foreign tax paid by him in a country or specified territory outside India

The foreign tax referred to in sub-rule (1) shall mean in respect of a country or specified territory outside India

(a) with which India has entered into an agreement for the relief or avoidance of double taxation of income in terms of section 90 or section 90A, the tax covered under the said agreement;

(b) the tax payable under the law in force in that country or specified territory in the nature of income-tax referred to in clause (iv) of the Explanation to section 91.

Cases in which the tax credit is not given

The credit under sub-rule (1) shall not be available

(a) in respect of any sum payable by way of interest, fee or penalty but available against the amount of tax, surcharge and cess payable under the Act

(b) in respect of any amount of foreign tax or part thereof which is disputed in any manner by the assessee.

Foreign Tax Credit

Rules of computation of tax credit

The credit of foreign tax shall be the aggregate of the amounts of credit computed separately for each source of income arising from a particular country or specified territory outside India and shall be given effect to in the following manner:

- the credit shall be the lower of the tax payable under the Act on such income and the foreign tax paid on such income,
- Provided that where the foreign tax paid exceeds the amount of tax payable in accordance with the provisions of the agreement for relief or avoidance of double taxation, such excess shall be ignored for the purposes of this clause;
- the credit shall be determined by conversion of the currency of payment of foreign tax at the telegraphic transfer buying rate on the last day of the month immediately preceding the month in which such tax has been paid or deducted.

Case 1

Lower of Both

tax payable	foreign tax paid
1500 USD	1000 USD

$\underbrace{\text{1500 USD} \quad \text{1000 USD}}_{\text{1000 USD}}$

Case 2

Excess ignored even in double taxation agreement

tax payable	foreign tax paid
1000 USD	1500 USD

$\underbrace{\text{1000 USD} \quad \text{1500 USD}}_{\text{1000 USD}}$

Case 3 (Example)

Foreign Tax paid date	1000 USD on Feb 15
Exchange rate calculated on	Last day of previous month
Jan 31	1000 USD X 72.91 Rs = 72,910 Rs

SBC
LOCAL CONNECT. GLOBAL OUTLOOK.

FRRO REGISTRATION

Introduction to Registration of Foreigners:

- All foreigners visiting India on long term (more than 180 days) Student Visa, Medical Visa, Research Visa, Employment Visa, Missionary Visa and Project Visa are required to get themselves registered with the Foreigners Regional Registration Officer (FRRO)/ Foreigners Registration Officer (FRO) concerned having jurisdiction over the place where the foreigner intends to stay, within 14 days of arrival.
- However, All Business Visa holders are required to register themselves with the FRRO/FRO concerned in case the aggregate stay in India on Business visa exceeds 180 days during a calendar year.
- Pakistan nationals are required to register within 24 hours of their arrival.
- Foreigners (including minors above 16 years of age) must report in person or through an authorized representative to the appropriate Registration Officer for registration.
- No registration is required in respect of children below the age of 16 years.
- All the Indian Missions shall stamp the visas of the foreigners who are required to get the registration.
- Ordinarily, the registration process is completed on the same day, but it may vary in those cases where field enquiry/other checks are required to be done by the registration officer.

Arrival formalities:

Arrival formalities:

- Every person entering India by air, land or sea is required to complete the Embarkation/ Disembarkation card (D/E card) proforma (Form D – Registration of Foreigners Rules, 1992).

Regulations:

The extant Acts dealing with entry, stay and exit of foreigner nationals in the country are:

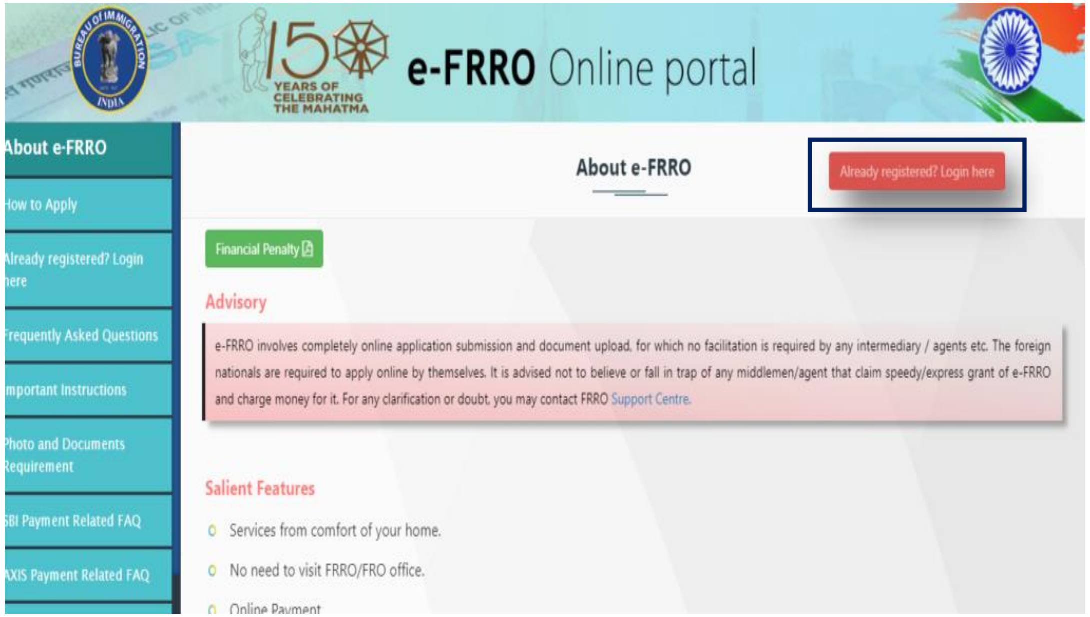
- Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920
- Foreigners Act, 1946
- Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939

Procedure for Online Application for registration of the Foreigner:

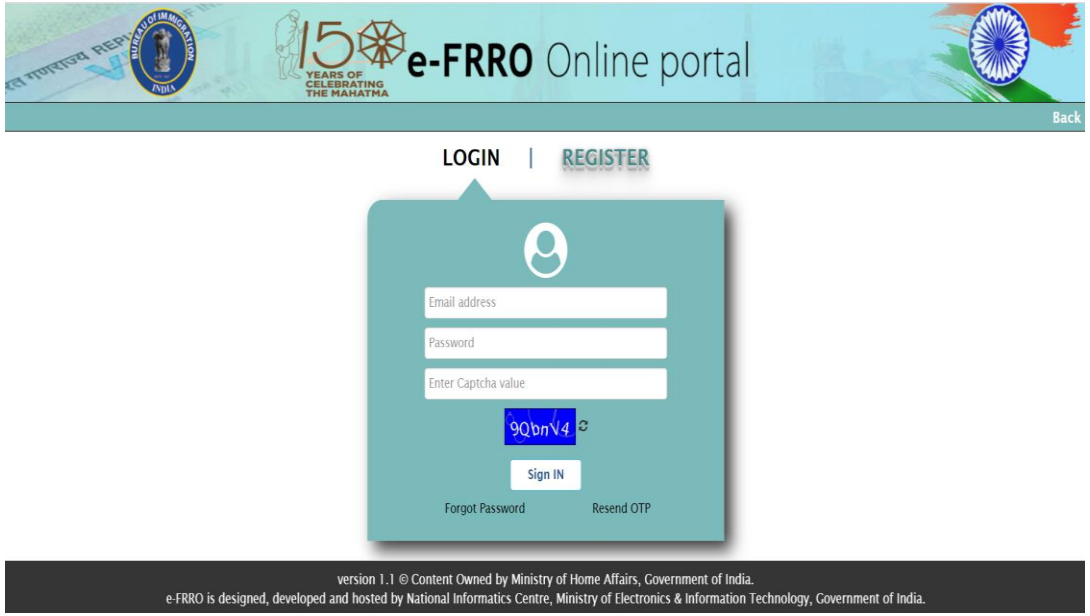
- Applicants who are required to register at FRRO shall have to fill their application online using the web based online application submission system.
- Applicants may access the facility of online registration at the FRRO from the below mentioned website i.e., https://indianfrro.gov.in/

Steps for Registration

Step: 1 Click on Online



Step: 2 Login / Register

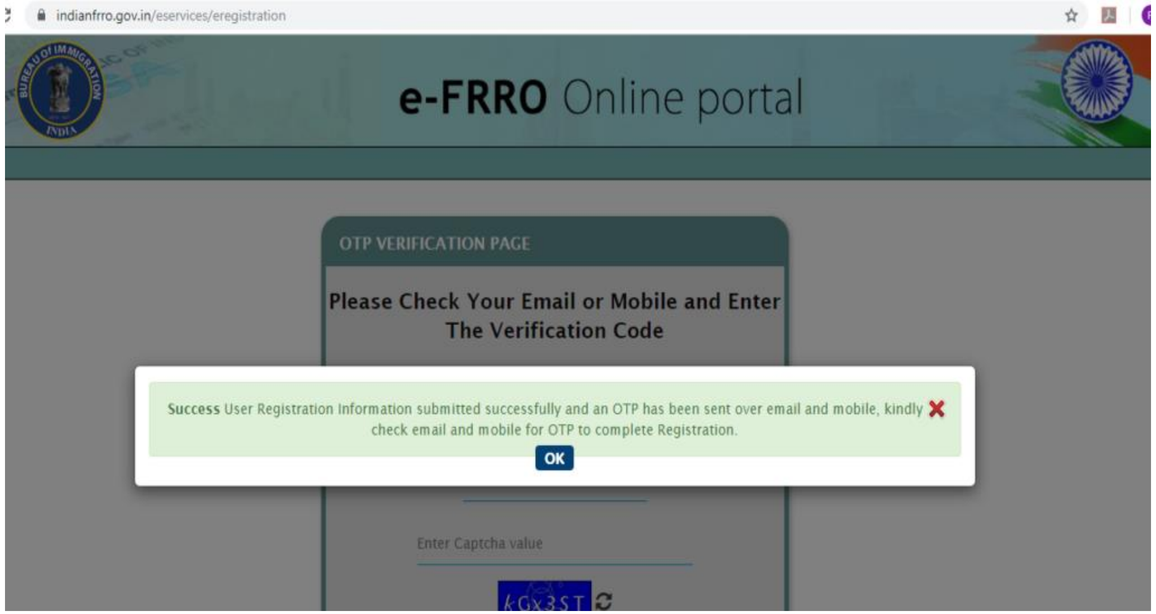


Procedure for Online Application for registration of the Foreigner:

Step: 3 Fill all the Details

Provide your basic data (name, surname, passport number, date of birth). This part of the process is digitalized so it goes quite smoothly

Step :4 Enter the OTP for



You will receive OTP to your e-mail ID as well as the Indian mobile number you entered during the registration process.

Procedure for Online Application for registration of the Foreigner:

Step: 5 Scheduling the appointment at the concerned FRRO

After Clicking on submit and scheduling by the applicant, a unique application Id is generated which can be used by the applicant during his visit to the concerned FRRO on the scheduled date

Step: 6 Visit the FRRO/ FRO to meet registration officials with the application form along with

Applicant shall have to produce the supporting documents to the FRRO/ FRO officer to verify with the data already available in the case file.

Once the registration is approved then the applicant shall be provided a Registration booklet as a registration proof by the registration official.

Procedure for Online Application for registration of the Foreigner:

- → Other than Pakistan Nationals, all the applicants are eligible for scheduling the appointment. Pakistan nationals shall have to register with the Police station within 24 hours of arrival in India.
- → Usually, the FRRO registration process completes within 24 hours. The registration officer is responsible for enquiring fields or any other check under this process.
- → Failure or late FRRO registration attracts a penalty of USD30, which is changed from time to time. Hence, it is important for all foreign nationals staying in India for over 180 days to obtain an FRRO registration as early as possible.

Supporting documents required for the registration

Passport	Original valid passport and Visa along with 4 passport size color photographs
Registration form	Completed FRRO registration form
Photocopies of Passport	3 photocopies of the relevant pages of the passport (photo page, the page is indicating validity, page bearing arrival stamp of Indian Immigration
Undertaking letter	FRRO undertaking letter (3 copies signed by Indian Host/ sponsor/ Guarantor along with anyone valid identity document like passport, election identity card, official identity card, PAN card, etc.).
Proof of Residence	Proof of Residence (3 copies of either electricity bill/Telephone bill/ Municipal bill/ certificate of municipal authority/Leave & License agreement or any other valid proof of residence). Submission of letter from the hotel or receipt of payment is sufficient in case of registration on a Tourist visa.
Registration fee	FRRO Registration fee- Rs. 100/-

Supporting documents required for the registration

In case of Employment

- Three copies of the terms and conditions of the contract of assignment, including salary, designation, tenure of employment, etc.

In case of registration on Employment or

- three copies of PAN card or of application made for grant of PAN card.
- Forwarding letter of concerned company/ Firm /Business undertaking, duly signed by the authorized signatory mentioning name, designation & telephone, and mobile number.

In case of Student visa

- Three copies of Bonafide certificate from School, College or Academic Institute for the academic year mentioning relevant particulars, including the validity of admission and nationality of the foreign student.

In case of Medical visa

- Requires the letter from the concerned hospital along with supportive medical documentary/diagnostic test reports with medical certificate about the tentative period of treatment.
- The applicant admitted in the hospital requires a medical certificate bearing a photo of the applicant attested and certified by the doctor.

Departure formalities:

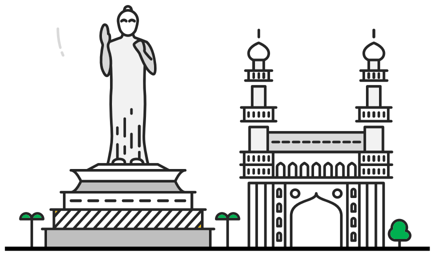
Every registered foreigner who is about to depart finally from India shall surrender his/ her

- To the Registration Officer of the place where he/ she is registered (or)
- To the Registration Officer of the place from where he/ she intends to depart (or)
- To the Immigration Officer at the port/ check post of exit from India.

Other Formalities

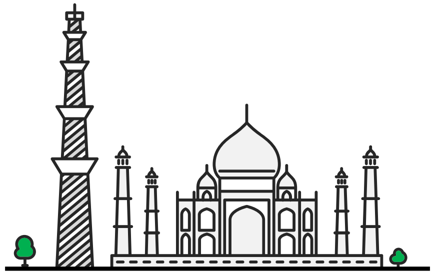
- If the certificate is surrendered to any authority other than the Immigration Officer of the post or check post of exit, a receipt indicating such surrender of the document may be obtained and shown to the Immigration Officer.
- It is not necessary for a foreigner (except a citizen of Pakistan or Afghanistan) to seek exit/ departure clearance from the Registration Officer of his/ her place of registration.
- Such a foreigner can straightaway depart from the Immigration Check Point.

Contact Us:



HYDERABAD

Suite 5, Level 3, Reliance Cyber Ville,, Madhapur, Hitech City, Hyderabad – 500081

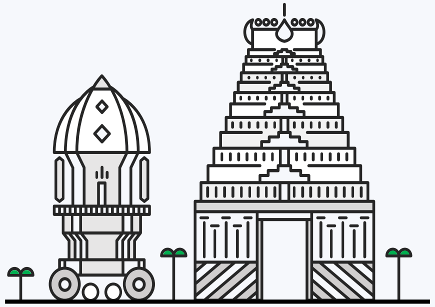


DELHI

C- 699A, 1st Floor, Sector-7, Palam Extn., Dwarka, New Delhi, Delhi 110075

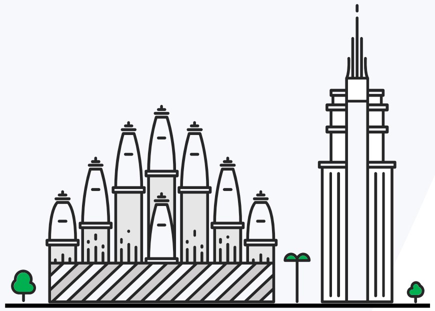
MUMBAI

Flat no.3, Plot no.226/227, Sion East, Mumbai - 400022



CHENNAI

Old no 19, New no 13B, New Bangaru colony first Street, KK Nagar West, Chennai 600078



BANGALORE

90/1, 3rd floor, pasha south square, Rathavilas road , basavangudi , Bangalore - 560004

Vijayawada : # 56-11-3, Sri Devi Complex, Y.V.R Street, MG Road, Patamata, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh

Tirupati : H. No: 6-154/1, Syamala Nilayam, Near Water Tank, Akkarampalli, Tirupathi, Andhra Pradesh

Vishakhapatnam: Level 3, Kupilli Arcade, Akkayyapalem, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, 530016

Overseas :

UAE Address: 2103, Bayswater Tower, Business Bay, Dubai, UAE

USA Address: 8 The Green, Suite A in the city of Dover, Delaware - 19901

Thank You

www.steadfastconsultants.in

SBC refers to one or more of Steadfast Business Consulting LLP (LLPIN: AAL-1503), a Hyderabad based Limited Liability Partnership, and its network of member firms, branches and affiliates. SBC provides tax, consulting, audit and financial advisory services to clients within and beyond borders spanning multiple industries. With local connect and expertise put together with global outlook and capabilities, SBC believes in providing holistic solutions to clients tailored to meet business objectives and address most complex challenges and at the same time be robust, scalable and sustainable from a tax, legal and regulatory standpoint.