

TRAVEL FORMALITIES

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UNIT 3

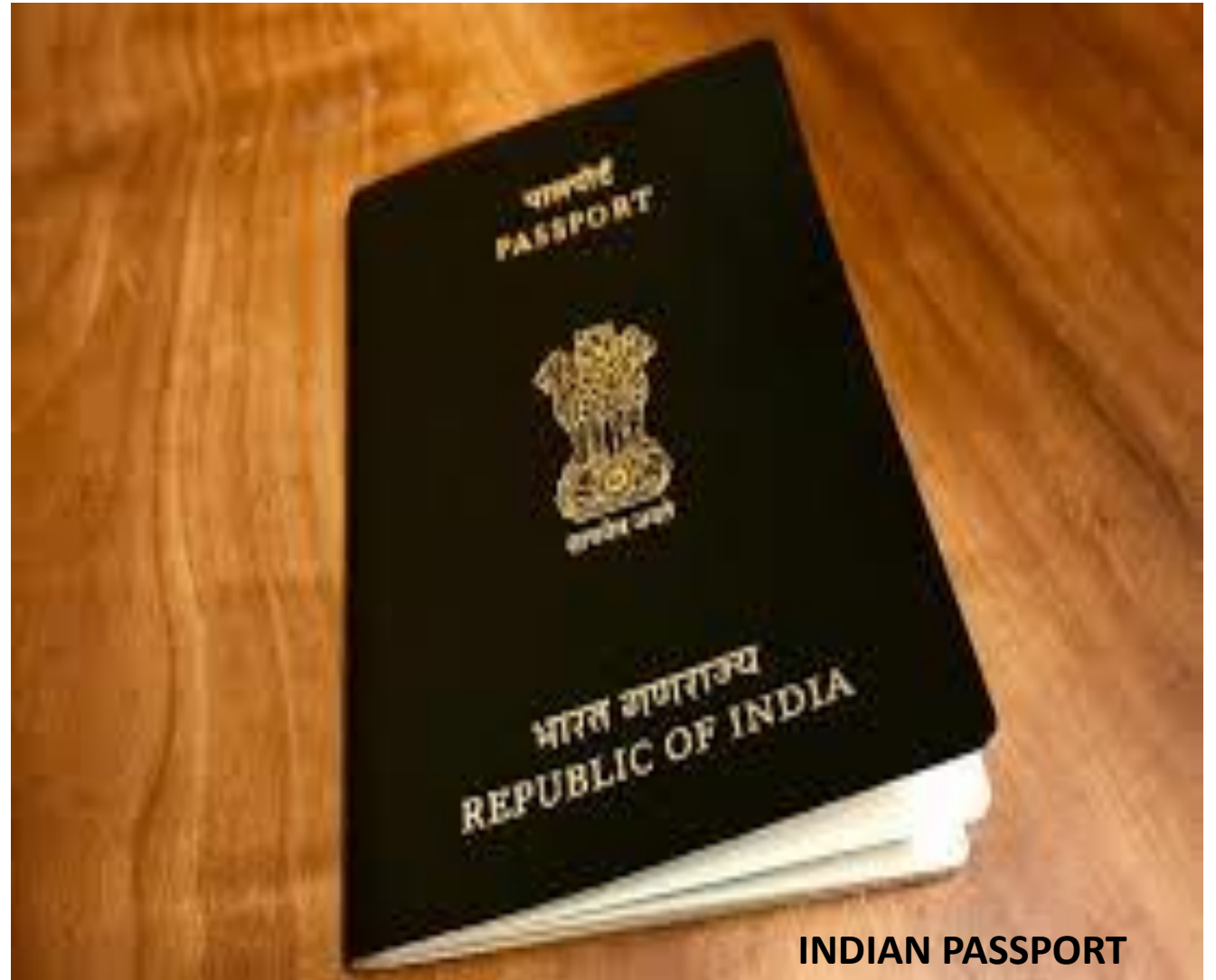
Topics Covered

- **Passport**
- **Visa**
- **Travel Insurance & health certificates**
- **Citizenship**

PASSPORT – DEFINITION

A passport is a **travel document** issued by a country's government to its citizens that **verifies the identity and nationality** of the holder for the purpose of international travel.

Passports are small booklets that typically contain the holder's name, place of birth, date of birth, the date of issue, date of expiry, passport number, photo and signature. There are several types of passports depending on the status of the holder in their country.



INDIAN PASSPORT

- The word passport has originated from the French (meaning – passer).
- The **validity** of a passport is usually between **5 – 10 years**.
- **Any citizen** of the country **can apply** for a passport and **if the government has no objection** to issue it.
- It is **issued** by the **Ministry of External Affairs and with the help of Ministry of Home affairs**.
- **Passport can be used for the following:**
 1. Means of access to another country
 2. Means of Identification (like licence)
 3. Evidence of legal entry to another country

TYPES OF PASSPORTS – INDIAN

- There are three types of passports that are currently issued in India
 1. Normal Passport/Ordinary passport
 2. Official passport and
 3. Diplomatic consular passport

PASSPORT – TYPES

There are three types of passports that are currently issued in India

1. Normal Passport/Ordinary passport
 2. Official passport and
 3. Diplomatic consular passport/ Diplomatic Indian passport
- Discussion of adding one more passport – Orange colour (For people who have not studied beyond class 10th)



Regular Indian Passport



Official Indian Passport



Diplomatic Indian Passport

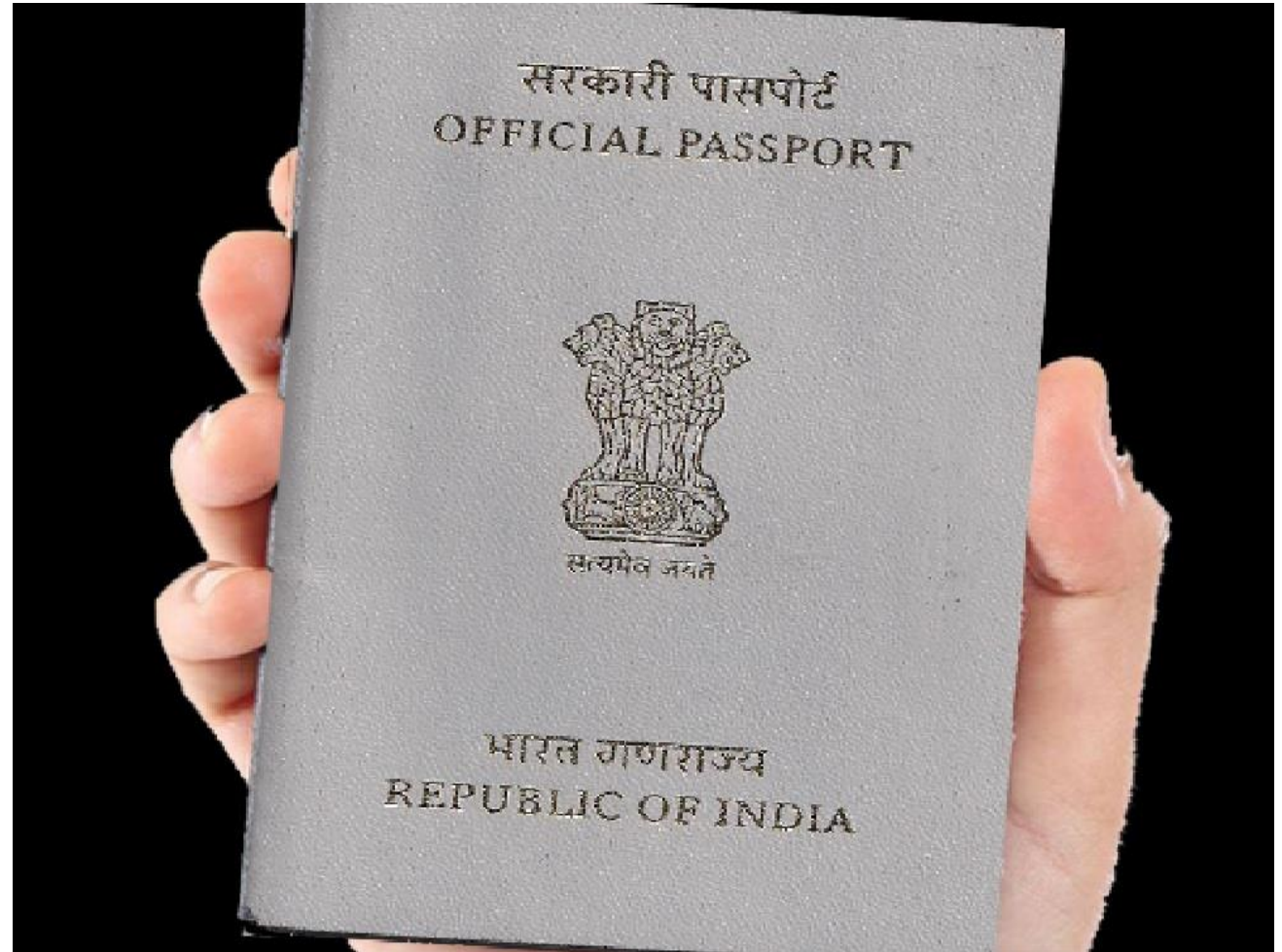
THE BLUE PASSPORT

The common man of India is issued the blue-coloured passport. This helps the custom, immigration officials and other authorities abroad distinguish between the common man and government officials of India holding high ranks.



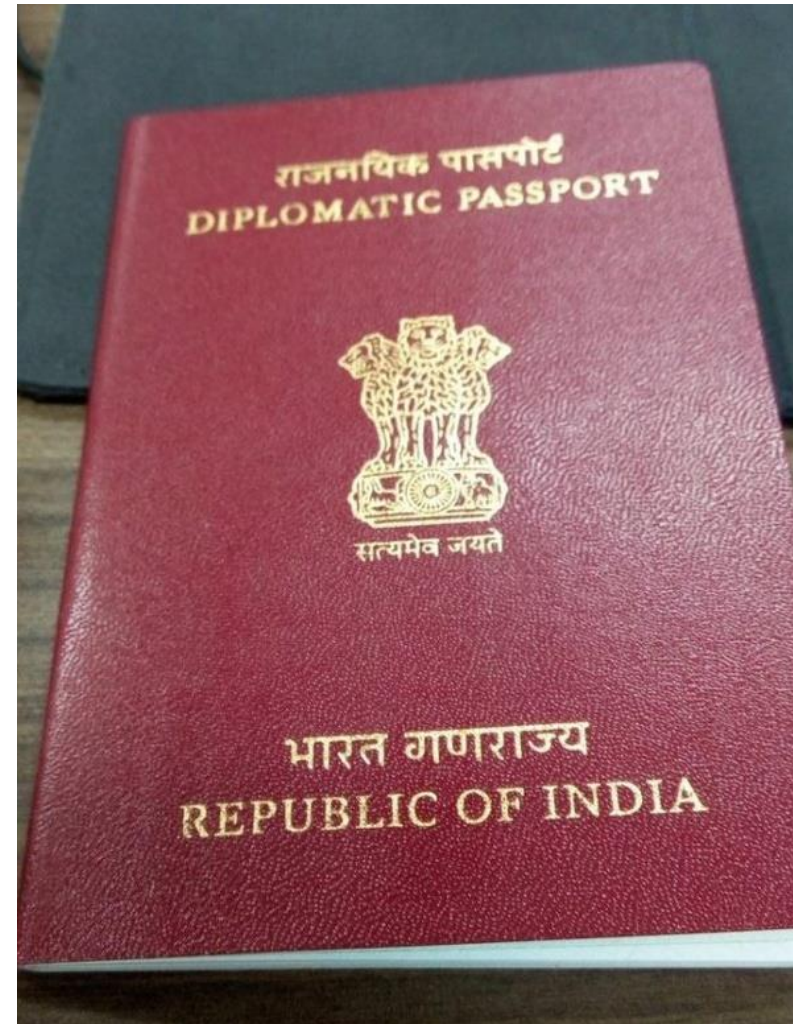
THE WHITE PASSPORT

- Of the different types of passport, the white passport is the most powerful one. Government officials are the eligible recipients of white passport.
- It is issued to persons travelling abroad for official work.
- The white passport makes it easy for the custom and immigration officials to identify the holder as a government official and give due treatment.



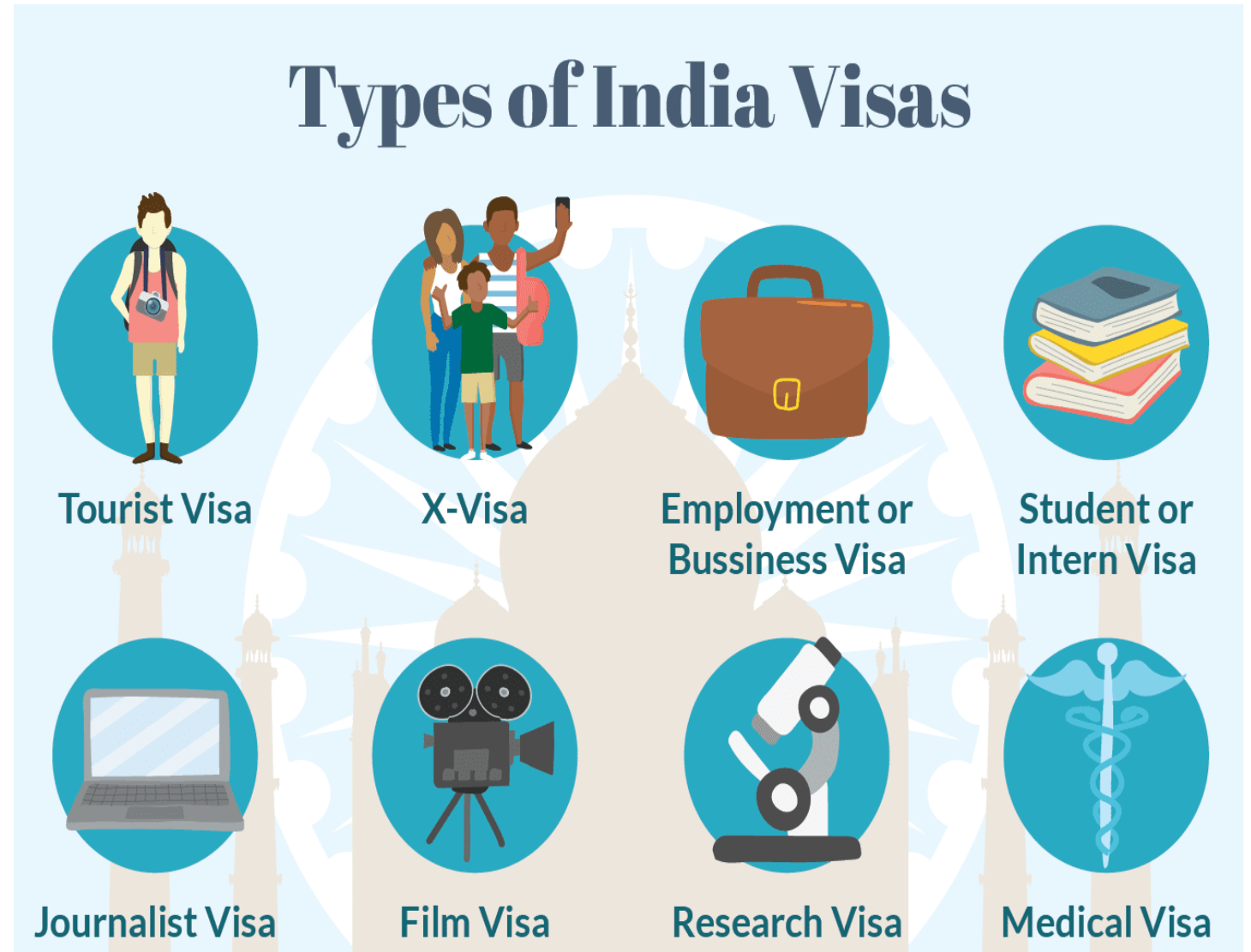
DIPLOMATIC CONSULAR PASSPORT/ DIPLOMATIC INDIAN PASSPORT

- A maroon passport is issued to Indian diplomats and senior government officials.
- For a high quality passport, a separate application has to be filed. Such passport holders become eligible for several benefits during foreign tours.
- In addition, they do not need a visa for flying abroad. Also, maroon passport holders are able to clear immigration formalities much faster than regular people.



VISA

A visa is an official document that allows the bearer to legally enter a foreign country. The visa is usually stamped or glued into the bearer's passport. There are several different types of visas, each of which afford the bearer different rights in the host country.



TYPES OF VISA

S. No.	Types of Visa	Relevance	Max. Duration
1	Employment Visa	Highly skilled Individuals intending to take up employment	5 years/period of contract (Extendable in India)
2	Business Visa	Visiting India for a business purpose	5 years (Extendable in India)
3	Project Visa	For executing projects in the Power and Steel sectors	1 year or for actual duration of the project/contract
4	"X"/ Entry visa	For accompanying families of foreign nationals	5 years (Extendable in India)
5	Tourist Visa	Visiting India for tourism	30 days (Not extendable in India)
6	Research Visa	Pursuing research in any field	5 years (Extendable in India)
7	Transit Visa	Travellers passing through India	15 days (Not extendable in India)
8	Conference Visa	International seminars/ seminars held by Govt./ PSUs/NGOs	Duration of Conference
9	Medical Visa	For seeking medical treatment in India at recognized and specialized hospitals and treatment centres	1 year

TRAVEL INSURANCE

- Travel Insurance is a type of insurance that covers different risks while travelling. It covers medical expenses, lost luggage, flight cancellations, and other losses that a traveller can incur while travelling.
- Travel Insurance is usually taken from the day of travel till the time the traveller reaches back to India. Taking Travel insurance ensures a comprehensive coverage in case of any emergency in another country. Travel Insurance is also available for trips taken in the home country of the traveller like Bharat Bhraman & E Travel, but it is a more popular option for travel abroad.

Some of the risks covered under Travel Insurance are:

- Personal Accident Cover, which covers:
 - Insured's Death
 - Permanent Total Disability
- Accident & sickness medical expense reimbursement
- Dental treatment relief
- Emergency evacuation
- Repatriation of remains in case of death
- Baggage delay
- Loss of checked baggage
- Loss of passport
- Flight delay
- Hijack
- Home burglary
- Trip curtailment
- Trip cancellation
- Missed connection/missed departure
- Bounced hotel/airline booking

HEALTH CERTIFICATES

- Different health certificates are provided by different healthcare facilities (mainly signed by a medical officer from govt dept) when a person plans to travel abroad. A medical examination is conducted throughout to root out any medical illnesses.
- The most common medical tests are:
 - ✓ Blood test and
 - ✓ Vision test
- Medical tests are also done for pets that travel to abroad.
- Special care is taken during air travel for people who have illness or people other disabilities while travelling. For example. A person who is travelling in case of medical reasons will be provided wheelchair etc.

CITIZENSHIP

Citizenship under Indian Constitution and Citizenship act 1955:

- Citizenship is the status of a person recognized under the custom or law as being a legal member of a sovereign state or belonging to a nation.
- A person may have multiple citizenships. A person who does not have citizenship of any state is said to be stateless, while one who lives on state borders whose territorial status is uncertain is a border-lander.
- Nationality is often used as a synonym for citizenship in English— notably in international law.
- In some countries, e.g. the United States, the United Kingdom, nationality and citizenship can have different meanings

Factors determining the issue of citizenships in India

- Citizenship by birth
- Born within a country
- Citizenship by marriage
- Citizenship by investment or Economic Citizenship.

A case study on citizenship

- **Kulathi Mammu vs State of Kerala** – He was born in Kozhikode of parents who were both Indian citizens. In 1948 at the age of 12 he went to Pakistan. He came to India for some time in 1954 on a Pakistani passport in which he was described as a Pakistani national. He again came for some time in 1956. After that there was no record in Kozhikode of his movements but in 1964 he was again found there without any valid travel documents. On action under the Foreigners Act being taken against him a writ petition was filed in the High Court and it was urged that he was an Indian citizen. The High Court held that he had 'migrated' to Pakistan within meaning of Article. 7 of the Constitution in 1948, and therefore was foreigner.

NRI (Non- Resident Indian)

A Non Resident Indian (NRI) is an Indian Citizen: (Income Tax Act, 1951), who resides in India for less than one hundred & eighty two days during the course of the preceding financial year, or who has gone out of India or who stays outside India for the purpose of employment, or who has gone out of India or who stays outside India for carrying on business or vocation outside India, or who has gone out of India or who stays outside India for any other purpose indicating his intention to stay outside India for an uncertain period.

OCI & PIO(Overseas Citizen of India/ Person of Indian Origin)

- **Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI)** is a form of permanent residency available to people of Indian origin and their spouses which allows them to live and work in India indefinitely. Despite the name, OCI status is not citizenship and does not grant the right to vote in Indian elections or hold public office. The Indian government can revoke OCI status in a wide variety of circumstances. As of 2020, there are 6 million holders of OCI cards among the Indian Overseas diaspora.
- The OCI was introduced by The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2005 in response to demands for dual citizenship by the Indian diaspora, particularly in developed countries. The Constitution of India prevents Indian citizens from holding dual citizenship.
- OCI status is not available to anyone who has ever been a Pakistani or Bangladeshi citizen, or who is a child, grandchild, or great-grandchild of such a person.

RP (Residence Permit)

- A **residence permit** is a document or card required in some regions, allowing a foreign national to reside in a country for a fixed or indefinite length of time. These may be permits for temporary residency, or permanent residency. The exact rules vary between regions. In some cases (e.g. the UK) a temporary residence permit is required to extend a stay past some threshold, and can be an intermediate step to applying for permanent residency.
- Residency status may be granted for a number of reasons and the criteria for acceptance as a resident may change over time.

THE END