

## **Introduction of pre-arrival registration for Indian nationals**

Currently, Indian visitors may visit Hong Kong visa-free for a stay up to 14 days as long as they possess a valid passport. With effect from 23 January 2017, an Indian national intending to visit or enter Hong Kong during transit must first apply for and successfully complete pre-arrival registration online, without which they would not be able to visit or transit Hong Kong visa-free (if seeking to enter Hong Kong during transit) unless they belong to one of the exempted categories (please refer to paragraph 3 of the attached Guidance Notes on Pre-arrival Registration for Indian Nationals).

During online application for pre-arrival registration, the registrants would be asked to provide information such as their personal particulars, immigration and travel history, details of their planned visit to Hong Kong, etc. and the application result can be returned to them in real time. Upon successful registration, the registrant must on his / her own print a “Notification Slip for Pre-arrival Registration for Indian Nationals” generated by the computer system for presentation together with the specific Indian passport linked to the pre-arrival registration to the transport operators before boarding a conveyance (including a ship or ferry) bound for Hong Kong and upon arrival immigration clearance in Hong Kong. Indian passport holders without their pre-arrival registration, or not belonging to one of the exempted categories would not be allowed to board a conveyance bound for Hong Kong and would be refused entry upon arriving in Hong Kong.

Indian nationals who cannot complete pre-arrival registration must apply to the Hong Kong Immigration Department directly for an entry visa before visiting Hong Kong.

In order to allow sufficient time for Indian travelers to obtain a pre-arrival registration, apply for an entry visa, and/or make adjustment to their travel arrangements as necessary, the online platform for pre-arrival registration will be opened on 19 December 2016.

## **Indian passport together with successful pre-arrival registration as valid travel document under Immigration Ordinance**

After introduction of pre-arrival registration on 23 January 2017, the Indian passport held by an Indian visitor will be exempted from the visa requirement under section 61(2) of the Immigration Ordinance, Cap. 115, Laws of Hong Kong ***only if*** the Indian visitor concerned is a “holder of a valid Indian passport who has successfully registered under pre-arrival registration”, or is otherwise exempted.