

PRESS RELEASE

Discontinuation of India-Bangladesh Passport(IBP)

1. The India-Bangladesh Passport(IBP) was introduced as a special travel document in August, 1972 to facilitate travel between India and Bangladesh only. Over the years, the Central Government delegated powers to State Governments of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura & West Bengal to issue IBPs.

2. Pursuant to the signing of the Revised Travel Arrangements between India and Bangladesh signed on January 28, 2013, **it has been decided by the Ministry of External Affairs to discontinue issuance of India-Bangladesh Passport (IBP) w.e.f. 15.11.2013.** In order to implement the Revised Travel Arrangements between India & Bangladesh and to phase out the issuance of India-Bangladesh Passport, the following course of action has been approved by the Government of India for implementation:

- i) IBPs already issued will remain valid till expiry of their duration.
- ii) No new applications for IBP will be accepted by any concerned State Government after November 15, 2013. All applications received on or before November 15, 2013 should be processed and IBPs issued expeditiously. No India-Bangladesh Passport should be issued after 30th November, 2013.

3. All concerned State Governments have been informed accordingly. More details on how to apply for a regular passport is available on www.passportindia.gov.in

New Delhi

November 8, 2013