

# Global BRIEF



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### **INDIA: Ministry of Home Affairs announces APIS is now official from the 1st October 2005.**

Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) is an automated system capable of performing database queries on passengers and crewmembers prior to their arrival in or departure.

According to the official Government Gazette notice (G.S.R. 158 (E) dated 07 March 05, the requirements on the Indian captains of airlines or masters of vessels, as of 1 October 2005, are that they are required to provide information about the passengers and crew within 15 minutes of arriving or departing India.

Clients are advised that there are about 67 immigration check posts (ICPs) in the country at 22 airports, 30 land ports and 15 sea ports.

The Bureau of Immigration controls these posts at Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Amritsar, Wagah and Attari. The hardware to provide expeditious immigration clearance has been upgraded at Delhi, Hyderabad, Bangalore airports and work was in the process of completion at Kolkata, Mumbai, Goa, Trivandrum, Cochin, Kozhikode, Ahmedabad airports.

Passport reading machines are to be installed at Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Kolkata, as also in Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Trivandrum, Cochin and Kozhikode in a phased manner.

The officers are currently undergoing training and as a result, delays may be likely.

### **CANADA: Post grad students now qualify for 2 year work permit.**

In Canada post-graduation work program previously allowed students to work for one year. Now with the recent change in the law certain students to work for up to two years after their graduation.

Foreign students are eligible for a post-graduation work permit only for employment in their field of study. They must still have a valid study permit and apply for the work permit within 90 days of receiving written confirmation (transcript, letter, etc.) from their institution indicating that they have met the requirements of their program.

### **CANADA: Resumption of citizenship.**

With the recent May 05 change in the citizenship law, people who lost their Canadian citizenship as minors between January 1, 1947, and February 14, 1977, can apply to resume their citizenship without having to become permanent residents and live in Canada for one year. The requirements concerning official language ability and knowledge of Canada also do not apply to these cases, but the people concerned must make an application and take the oath of citizenship.

Source: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/citizen/notice-resumption.html>

### **U.S.A.: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced that they have updated the Employment Eligibility Verification Form (Form I-9) to eliminate outdated references to the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and its parent agency, the Department of Justice.**

Aside from replacing outdated references the current edition of Form I-9 is the same as the 11/21/91 edition.

The edition date on the new Form I-9 reads "(Rev. 05/31/05) Y." Employers may meet their employment verification requirements under the law by completing a Form I-9 that has an edition date of either "(Rev. 5/31/05) Y," "(Rev. 05/31/05) N," or "(Rev. 11/21/91) N" in the lower right corner of the form.

DHS is currently in the process of making substantive changes to the Form I-9 and plans to introduce a new Form I-9 at the end of this process.

Source: <http://uscis.gov/graphics/services/employerinfo/eibulletin.htm>

### **U.K. : Immigration services introduce e-Borders.**

As part of a multi-agency program the Iris Recognition Immigration System (IRIS) is being introduced at London Heathrow Terminals 2 and 4.

The first phase includes electronic embarkation controls designed to improve U.K. border security. U.K. residents can sign up at the airport before departure.

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