Memorandum of Understanding on Simplifying the Visa Procedures between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of China 41,

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The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the parties), with a view to promoting friendly relations between the two countries and facilitating contacts of the nationals of the two countries, have reached the following agreement on simplifying the visa procedures for diplomatic and official (service) passport holders through friendly consultations on the principle of equality and reciprocity:

- 1. The Embassy and Consulates of each side shall, upon request by a diplomatic note of the other side, issue multiple entry visas valid for three years to holders of diplomatic or official (service) passports of the diplomatic and consular missions of the other side in the receiving country and their accompanying spouses and minor children.
- 2. The Embassy and Consulates of each side shall, upon request by a diplomatic note of the other side, issue multiple entry visas valid for six months to non-accompanying spouses and minor children of resident personnel of diplomatic and consular missions of the other side in the receiving country who wish to go on family visits.
- 3. Holders of the above-mentioned visas may enter and exit the other country within the validity period of the visas. These visas may be extended or reissued upon application on their expiration.
- 4. The Embassy and Consulates of each side shall, upon request by a diplomatic note or an official letter from the competent authorities of the other side, issue visas, without charge to holders of diplomatic or official (service) passports of the other who seek to enter the receiving country on temporary official duties, except those whose applications are denied.
- 5. Both fides shall issue visas to the above-mentioned personnel within ten working days after the receipt of their application. The personnel mentioned in Article 1 and 2 of this agreement shall be exempted from filling out forms, submitting photos and paying fees in applying and extending such visas.
- 6. Either side which wishes to terminate the agreement or revise it in part or in entirety shall inform the other of its intentions in writing through diplomatic channels at least sixty days in advance.

7. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of signature while the understanding concerning simplification of visa procedures for resident personnel of the two Embassies reached between India and China on 15th April, 1988 shall cease to be effective as of the entry into force of this agreement.

Done in duplicate at Beijing on this the Twenty Second day of October 1994 in Hindi, Chinese and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence, however, the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of the Republic of India

For the Government of the People's Republic of China

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