Instructions relating to grant of Visa to crew of non-scheduled airlines and chartered flights and issue of Temporary Landing Permits (TLPs)

I. Grant of visa to crew of non-scheduled airlines and chartered flights operated by such airlines

(A) Instructions have been issued on 4th September, 2013 authorizing Indian Missions/Posts abroad to grant Business visa for appropriate duration to crew of non-scheduled airlines and chartered flights operated by such airlines subject to usual checks, except in the case of nationals of Afghanistan, China, Ethiopia, Iraq, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia & Sri Lanka and foreign nationals of Pakistan origin. The Indian Missions/Posts concerned may grant visa in such cases, preferably within 3 days of submission of the visa application.

(B) In the case of nationals of the Prior Reference Category (PRC) countries, as mentioned above, the cases may be uploaded by the Indian Missions/Posts abroad on the Online Visa Processing System immediately for clearance by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The comments/clearance of the Ministry of Home Affairs will be uploaded within 30 days from the uploading of the visa application.

(C) In all these cases, visa will be endorsed on their national passport only and NOT on the crew member certificate.

(D) Director General Civil Aviation (DGCA) will intimate clearances for such non-scheduled flights to the Bureau of Immigration and Director General (Police) concerned well before the arrival of the flight.

II. Temporary Landing Permit (TLP)

(A) Crew Members of scheduled/unscheduled flights operated by scheduled operators as approved by the Ministry of Civil Aviation from time to time may not be charged a fee for the grant of landing permits up to a period of 7 (seven) days. In case the stay exceeds the permitted period of 7 days, usual fee of US$ 40 (or equivalent amount in Indian rupees) shall be charged.

(B) The seamen who arrive by ship and have to leave India either by another ship or by flight within seven days may also be granted landing permits without charging a fee. In case the stay exceeds the permitted period of 7 days, usual fee of US$ 40 (or equivalent amount in Indian rupees) shall be charged.
In the case of crew of non-scheduled airlines and chartered flights operated by such airlines, revised instructions have been issued on 4th September, 2013 as follows:-

(i) In respect of the following categories of crew of non-scheduled airlines and chartered flights operated by such airlines, the Immigration Authorities may grant Temporary Landing Permits (TLPs) subject to usual checks:-

(a) Medical Emergency
(b) Technical problems in the aircraft and Technical landing for refueling / for crew rest
(c) Diversion of the aircraft to an Indian airport due to bad weather conditions in the nearby foreign airport
(d) Relief flights including flights operated under UN Mission.

(ii) In respect of the following categories, TLP may be granted by the Immigration authorities for the crew of non-PRC countries, subject to usual checks and DGCA intimating flight clearance:-

(a) VIP flights
(b) Cargo flights
(c) Private Aircrafts of leading businessmen coming for business purpose.

(iii) In respect of crew of non-PRC countries of tourist charter flights, TLP may be granted subject to usual checks and further subject to the following conditions:-

(a) The tourist or travel agency sponsoring the tourists shall mandatorily fill in the visa applications for the crew members of the charter flights online.

(b) A complete list of crew members along with printed visa applications and their itinerary should be submitted by the tourist or travel agency to the FRRO/ FRO concerned, 72 hours in advance.
(iv) In all cases, DGCA shall intimate clearances for such non-scheduled flights to Bureau of Immigration and Director General (Police) concerned well before the arrival of the flight along with information on crew having no valid visa.

(v) Crew members of the flights operated by non-scheduled operators will be charged the usual fee of US$ 40 (or equivalent amount in Indian rupees) per person for the grant of landing permits.

New Delhi
5th September, 2013