



INDIALAW

Visa and Immigration Advisory

Visa and Immigration Advisory Law Firm in India for FRRO and Compliance

PRACTICE PROFILE • MAY 2026

Overview

- **Visa Advisories:** Determining the appropriate visa type based on purpose of travel (business, employment, medical, student, etc.) and assisting in preparing and filing the application.
- **Visa Category Changes & Conversions:** Assistance with changing visa categories and converting visa statuses in accordance with Indian regulations.
- **Visa Renewals and Extensions:** Handling renewals, extensions, and timely compliance with the Foreigner Regional Registration Office (FRRO) or Foreigner Registration Office (FRO).
- **Resident Permits:** Obtaining and renewing Resident Permits for long-term or employment-based stays in India.
- **Documentation and Compliance:** Preparing, organizing, and submitting all necessary documentation with the appropriate authorities, ensuring accuracy and legal sufficiency.

Key Professionals



Shiju P V
Managing Partner



K.P. Sreejith
Founder

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 What does visa and immigration advisory cover for foreign nationals in India?

It covers identifying the correct visa category, preparing and filing applications, handling extensions and conversions, obtaining Resident Permits, and managing ongoing compliance obligations with the FRRO or FRO throughout the foreign national's stay in India.

Q2 When should a company or individual engage an immigration adviser in India?

Ideally, well before the foreign national enters India or a visa nears expiry. Late filings with the FRRO can trigger penalties or deportation proceedings. Early engagement also matters when converting visa categories, as processing windows are strict and missed deadlines limit options.

Q3 Which Indian laws and authorities govern visa and immigration matters?

The primary framework includes the Foreigners Act 1946, the Registration of Foreigners Act 1939, and the Passport (Entry into India) Act 1920. The Ministry of Home Affairs sets visa policy, while the FRRO and FRO handle in-country registration, extensions, and compliance.

Q4 How long does a typical Indian visa extension or conversion process take?

FRRO processing for extensions generally takes two to four weeks, though employment visa conversions or cases requiring MHA referral can take longer. Key cost drivers include the visa category, urgency of processing, and whether supporting documents need apostille or consular attestation.

Q5 What documents are needed to start a visa or immigration engagement?

Typically, a valid passport with at least six months' remaining validity, the current visa and FRRO registration, a recent photograph, a letter from the sponsoring Indian entity, proof of address in India, and category-specific documents such as an employment contract or university admission letter.

Q6 What common mistakes do foreign nationals make with Indian visa compliance?

The most frequent errors are missing the 14-day FRRO registration deadline after arrival, working on a business visa instead of an employment visa, and letting extensions lapse before filing renewals. Each of these can result in fines, visa cancellation, or restrictions on future entry.

Related Practice Areas

Citizenship and Residency Services

Legal Support and Representation