

# THE PASSPORT (ENTRY INTO INDIA) ACT, 1920

ACT NO. 34 OF 1920 1\*

[9th September, 1920.]

An Act to take power to require passports of persons entering  
2\*[India].

WHEREAS it is expedient to take power to require passports of  
persons entering 2\*[India]; It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1.

Short title and extent.

1. Short title and extent.- (1) This Act may be called 3\*[the  
Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920].

(2) It shall extend to 4\*[the whole of India], 5\*\*\*.

2.

Definitions.

2. Definitions. - In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in  
the subject or context,-

"entry" means entry by water, land or air;

"passport" means a passport for the time being in force  
issued or renewed by the prescribed authority and satisfying  
the conditions prescribed relating to the class of passports  
to which it belongs; and

"prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act.

3.

Power to make rules.

3. Power to make rules.- (1) The Central Government may make rules  
6\* requiring that persons entering 7\*[India] shall be in possession of  
passports, and for all matters ancillary or incidental to that  
purpose.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power  
such rules may-

- (a) prohibit the entry into 7\*[India] or any part thereof  
of any person who has not in his possession a passport  
issued to him;

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Extended to Sikkim (w.e.f. 20.9.1976) vide Notifn. No. S. O. 3392,  
dated 3.9.1976

1. This Act has been extended to Goa, Daman and Diu with  
modifications  
by Regulation 12 of 1962, s. 3 and Sch.; to Dadra and Nagar Haveli  
by Regulation 6 of 1963, s. 2 and Sch. I; and to Laccadive,  
Minicoy and Amindivi Islands by Regulation 8 of 1965, s. 3 and  
Sch.
2. Subs. by Act 36 of 1949, s. 2, for "the Provinces of India".
3. Subs. by Act 15 of 1967, s. 25, for "the Indian Passport Act.  
1920".
4. Subs. by Act 36 of 1949, s. 3, for "all the Provinces of India".
5. The words "excluding the State of Hyderabad" subs. by the A.O.  
1950. omitted by Act 3 of 1951, s. 3 and Sch.
6. For Passport (Entry into India) Rules, 1950, see Gazette of India,  
1950, Pt. II, Sec. 3, p. 91.
7. Subs. by Act 36 of 1949, s. 4, for "Provinces".

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- (b) prescribe the authorities by whom passports must have  
been issued or renewed, and the conditions with which  
they must comply, for the purposes of this Act; and

- (c) provide for the exemption, either absolutely or on any  
condition, of any person or class of persons from any  
provision of such rules.

(3) Rules made under this section may provide that any  
contravention thereof or of any order issued under the authority of  
any such rule shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term  
which  
may extend to three months, or with fine or with both.

(4) All rules made under this section shall be published in the

Official Gazette, and shall thereupon have effect as if enacted in this Act.

1\*[(5) Every rule made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.]

4.

Power of arrest.

4. Power of arrest.- (1) Any officer of police, not below the rank of a sub-inspector, and any officer of the Customs Department empowered by a general or special order of the 2\*[Central Government] in this behalf may arrest without warrant any person who has contravened or against whom a reasonable suspicion exists that he has contravened any rule or order made under section 3.

(2) Every officer making an arrest under this section shall, without unnecessary delay, take or send the person arrested before a Magistrate having jurisdiction in the case or to the officer in charge of the nearest police-station and the provisions of section 61 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, (5 of 1898) shall, so far as may be, apply in the case of any such arrest.

5.

Power of removal.

5. Power of removal. - The 2\*[Central Government] may, by general or special order, direct the removal of any person from 3\*[India] who, in contravention of any rule made under section 3 prohibiting entry into 3\*[India] without passport, has entered therein, and thereupon

any officer of the Government shall have all reasonable powers necessary to enforce such direction.

6.

Application of Act to Part B States.

4\*6. [Application of Act to Part B States.] Rep. by the Part B States (Laws) Act, 1951 (3 of 1951), s. 3 and Sch.

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1. Ins. by Act 4 of 1986, s.2 and Sch. (w.e.f. 15.5.1986)
  2. Subs. by the A.O. 1937 for "L.G".
  3. Subs. by Act 36 of 1949, s. 4, for "the Provinces".
  4. Ins. by s. 5, ibid.