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## **Australian High Commission introduces new visa procedures**

From 6 June 2005, new procedures have been introduced for Indian migration visa applicants and those applying for citizenship by descent. All applications formerly lodged at the Australian High Commission will now be submitted with TT Services (TTS), the Australian High Commission's business partner.

TTS has offices throughout India and Nepal in New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Kathmandu. Client services are available from TTS throughout the day, including courier, passport tracking and helpdesk services.

"The new streamlined procedures are expected to make it easier for those applying to migrate to Australia to lodge their applications," said Mr John Fisher, First Secretary and Head of Public Affairs at the High Commission.

This service was already being availed by those applying for visitor, student and temporary resident visas. Now the service will be available to those applying to migrate to Australia as:

- a partner of an Australian citizen or permanent resident;
- a child migrant, orphan relative, or through adoption;
- a remaining relative, carer or aged dependent relative; or
- a citizen by descent.

"This change reflects the High Commission's commitment to innovation to improve our visa application procedures and enhance the service we give to those wishing to migrate to Australia," Mr Fisher said. "We expect these procedures will have practical benefits for applicants," he added.

This arrangement will not only assist visa applicants, but it will also ensure that applications are processed and finalised in the shortest period of time possible.

TTS collection service locations and the contact details can be found at [www.ttsaustraliavisas.com](http://www.ttsaustraliavisas.com). The TTS website has automatic links to the phone and email helpdesks, along with an on-line application/passport tracking service.

The contact details for the Visa Office at the Australian High Commission:

Email – [dima.india@dfat.gov.au](mailto:dima.india@dfat.gov.au).

Web site – [www.india.embassy.gov.au](http://www.india.embassy.gov.au)

*For further information please contact: Kelly H Raj, First Secretary, Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, on 513 999 39.*