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No. V.I/401/2/3/2010 Government of India Ministry of External Affairs CPV Division

> Patiala House Annexe New Delhi 16th May, 2013

CIRCULAR

Subject: Expeditious issue of Passports to adopted children under Intercountry adoption.

On the basis of GUIDELINES FOR ADOPTION FROM INDIA, issued by Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) [notified in the official Gazette vide S.O. 1460(E) dated 24th June, 2011], provisions for expeditious issue of Passport to such children have been incorporated at para 3.6 of Chapter-10 in the Passport Manual 2010. However, it has been brought to the notice of this Ministry by various Adoption Agencies of India as well as CARA that 'children adopted by persons having status of Non-Resident Indians or Overseas Citizens of India or Persons of Indian Origins or Foreign Nationals' (i.e., Intercountry adopted children) are facing difficulties in obtaining Passports.

- The matter has been examined considering the actual issue as well as
 the provisions relating to issue of passport in such cases. It has been
 observed that applicants are facing problems due to online appointments,
 Police Verification, etc.
- 3. Keeping in view the public interest and welfare of the adopted children, it is emphasized that Passports applications of adopted minors may be attended on priority basis under walk-in category. It may be noted that minors are already allowed to submit their application under walk-in category. Passport Office may also ensure that passports to inter-country adopted children are issued within 10 days.
- 4. It is also reiterated that as per the provisions of 5.1(d) of Chapter-3 of Passport Manual, "No Police Verification" is required for issuing passports to adopted children under Inter-country adoption. Passport to such children are issued on the basis of NOC issued by CARA and other formalities.

5. The above may kindly be brought to the notice of all concerned for information and compliance.

(Muktesh K. Pardeshi) Joint Secretary (PSP) & Chief Passport Officer

· All PIAs in India and abroad

Copy to: Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), West Block - VIII, 2nd Floor, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066