

**HIGH COMMISSION OF SINGAPORE IN NEW DELHI
CONSULAR BULLETIN MAY 2016**

Dear fellow Singaporeans,

1) Exemption for Singapore Citizens Contributing to India's EPF

Singapore Citizens working in India were previously required to contribute to India's Employees' Provident Fund (EPF). It has now been agreed that Singapore Citizens will now be exempted from this requirement.

As of 1 January 2016, Singapore Citizens will no longer have to contribute to the EPF. If you have previously contributed to the EPF, you will be allowed to withdraw your past contributions. However, this can only be done after your employment contract in India ends.

For Singapore Citizens who are working in India

If you are currently working in India and contributing to the EPF, you should apply to the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for an exemption from contributing to the EPF. To do so, you must complete the EPFO's Provident Contribution Form and get it certified by a Certifying Authority of the Singapore Government. This can be done through the Ministry of Trade and Industry in Singapore or the Singapore High Commission in New Delhi or the Consulates in Mumbai and Chennai.

You will be able to withdraw your past contributions after your employment in India ends. Please go to http://epfindia.gov.in/site_en/Downloads.php?id=sm8_index#Claim_Form for the relevant forms and instructions on how to do so. You will need an Indian bank account to which EPFO can credit your past contributions.

For Singapore Citizens who are about to start working in India

If you are about to start working in India, you will not be required to contribute to India's EPF, if you submit the certified Provident Fund Contribution Form to the EPFO before you start. The same process of certification through the Ministry of Trade and Industry in Singapore or the Singapore High Commission in New Delhi or the Consulates in Mumbai and Chennai applies.

For Singapore Citizens who have left India

For those who may have worked in India and contributed to the EPF, but have since left without being allowed to withdraw your contributions. If you still have an Indian bank account, you will now be able to withdraw your contributions. Please go to http://epfindia.gov.in/site_en/Downloads.php?id=sm8_index#Claim_Form for the relevant forms and instructions on how to do so.

For more details on EPF withdrawal procedures, please refer to following link:

<https://www.mti.gov.sg/MTIInsights/Pages/Comprehensive-Economic-Cooperation-Agreement---EPF-Exemption0404-7686.aspx>

2) Registration of Minors

An overseas-born minor (child) may be eligible for Singapore Citizenship by Descent under Article 122(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Singapore. The application has to be submitted within one year of the child's birth. Otherwise, a letter of explanation and additional documents are required for the late submission.

You may apply either online at <https://esc.ica.gov.sg/esc> or at the Singapore High Commission or the nearest Consulate in person.

For more information, please refer to the following link:

<http://www.ica.gov.sg/page.aspx?pageid=132>

3) Registration with the High Commission

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage all overseas Singaporeans to e-register with the High Commission at <https://eregister.mfa.gov.sg>. This will help enable us to contact and render necessary assistance in the event of an emergency or any crisis situation. You may wish to advise other Singaporeans to e-Register if they have not already done so. Should you require any assistance, please feel free to contact us directly at the following numbers:

Mr Mejar Singh Gill
Counsellor (Admin & Consular)
Mobile No: 97172 69911

Mr Khairulanwar Rahmat
Attache (Admin & Consular)
Mobile No: 88264 22118