

NOTICE TO ALL SRI LANKANS

As you all are aware, the Amnesty period issued by the Government of the UAE will start from 01/08/2018. As informed to this Consulate General by the Immigration authorities of Dubai, the following procedures will be taken to facilitate rectifying violators' status and exit of violators by the Government of the UAE.

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- **Rectifying Violators' Status**
 - Exemption from all applicable financial penalties (Penalties of Residency - Emirates ID- Labor Card).
 - Closing absconding case without recourse to the sponsor.
 - Fees for rectifying the status (521) dirham.
 - Adherence to the residency conditions in case of renewal of visa or new sponsor.
- **Exit of Violators: -**
 - Shall be exempted from penalties and closing the absconding case, if any.
 - Fees for individuals applying for closing the absconding case 121- for private institutions 521- for government institutions 71.
 - Exit permit fees 221 dirham.
 - In case of exit, passport is required.
 - In case there is no passport, travel document shall be issued from the consulate after submitting certificate "To Whom It May Concern" about the loss of passport.
 - Violator must provide the ticket and the travel date must be booked after 10 days of visiting the amnesty headquarters.
 - Violator's exit will be without a ban.

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In addition, with regard to the details of the above procedures, the Immigration authorities in Dubai stipulated the following guidelines in their manual;

Quote

- Temporary residency for 6 months shall be issued by the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization.
- Beneficiaries of violators' amnesty for visas and entry permits of Dubai only.
- In case the violator wishes to rectify his status inside the country and the visa is issued from another emirate and he has an absconding notification, he should contact the same emirate to close the absconding case.

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In consideration of the above, the Consulate General of Sri Lanka has planned to facilitate the following two categories of Sri Lankans to be benefitted by the Amnesty scheme as mentioned below;

(a) Sri Lankans who wish to exit the country under amnesty scheme

1. Those who wish to exit the country under the amnesty scheme can be categorized into following three (03) categories of overstayed Sri Lankans;
 - I. Sri Lankans with valid Sri Lankan passports
 - II. Sri Lankans with expired Sri Lankan passports
 - III. Sri Lankans whose passports were lost or stolen

2. The three categories mentioned above have the capacity to exit the country in following manner, in liaison with the Consulate General of Sri Lanka and the Immigration authorities of Dubai;
 - I. Sri Lankans with valid Sri Lankan passports who have accumulated overstaying fines can directly go to the Immigration authority of their respective Emirate (the Emirate which issued his/her visa), get their fines waved off paying the nominal fees charged by the Immigration authorities and exit the country.

 - II. Sri Lankans with expired passports can visit the Consulate General with the original of their expired passports and apply for a Travel Document. Thereafter, they can go to the Immigration authority of their respective Emirate (the Emirate which issued his/her visa), get their fines waved off paying the nominal fees charged by the Immigration authorities and exit the country.

 - III. Sri Lankans whose passports were lost or stolen can lodge a complaint in Dubai Police and produce the certificate issued thereon to the Consulate General of Sri Lanka to obtain their Travel Document. Thereafter, they can go to the Immigration authority of their respective Emirate (the Emirate which issued his/her visa), get their fines waved off paying the nominal fees charged by the Immigration authorities and exit the country.

(b) Sri Lankans who wish to stay in the country legalizing their status

- I. As enumerated in the guidelines given issued by the Immigration authorities of Dubai, legalizing the visa status should be done through the Amer Centers, subject to the rules and regulations stipulated by Dubai Immigration authorities, in addition to settling of relevant fees.
- II. In this context, the Sri Lankans who has valid passports for periods over 6 months (which is the standard time for stamping visa) can directly visit the Amer centers for legalizing their stay.
- III. For the Sri Lankans those who do not have a new passport and wish to apply for new ones, the Consulate General is exploring the possibility of delivering the same within the minimum possible time in liaison with the Department of Immigration and Emigration in Colombo, within its limitations, since the subject of issuing Sri Lankan Travel documents exclusively coming under the purview of the Controller General of Immigration and Emigration and his discretion. In this context, please also be noted that all the required documentary proof for application of passport is required. (For more information regarding the documents required for obtaining a new Sri Lankan Travel Document, please visit the website www.slcgdx.com)

In addition, the following facilities will be provided by the Consulate General of Sri Lanka to the Sri Lankan citizens who wish to be benefitted under the proposed amnesty scheme

- I. A special queue system will be established in the Consulate General for assisting the Sri Lankan citizens to be benefitted by the proposed amnesty scheme. (depends on the number of people)
- II. During this specific period, taking into account of the economic condition of the person on individual basis, consideration would be given to issue Travel Documents on Free of Charge basis.
- III. A dedicated phone line (i.e. 04 3986991 and 04 3986535 Extension 13) and an e-mail address (assistdubaiamnesty@gmail.com) will be maintained

specifically to address the queries related to using the proposed amnesty scheme.

- IV. Depending on the number of people, during the long run, Sri Lankan volunteers will be stationed in key Immigration places with the view to assisting the Sri Lankans.

Other Important things with regard to application of Sri Lankan Travel Documents during the amnesty period

- If you are applying for a Sri Lankan Travel Document, please submit all the original documents required for application of Sri Lankan travel documents as specified in the website of the Consulate General of Sri Lanka. Please see the link <http://slcgdxb.com/consular-services/passport-services/new-sri-lankan-passport/> for further information. Please be noted that the documents required to process the Sri Lankan passport have been specified by the Controller General of Immigration and Emigration of Sri Lanka who has the ultimate discretion for issuance of Travel Documents to the Sri Lankan citizens. Submission of required original document in correct order will ensure you a hassle-free service at the counters of the Consulate General of Sri Lanka and timely delivery of the Travel Document.
- Please be mindful to bring all forms of identification documents issued by Sri Lanka and/or UAE such as National Identity Card issued by Sri Lanka, Driving License issued by Sri Lanka, Emirates Identity Card, Driving License issued by UAE and Birth Certificates issued either by Sri Lanka and/or UAE and etc for easy identification of person.
- For issuance of Travel Documents only the cash payments are accepted at the counters of the Consulate General.
- If you don't have the original documents as required in the list specified by the Controller General of Immigration and Emigration, please make sure to collect them from Sri Lanka or UAE prior to visiting the Consulate General for obtaining the services.
- The Consulate General of Sri Lanka positively believes that the fellow citizens of Sri Lanka residing in Dubai and the Northern Emirates will support its skeleton staff to function more efficiently during the given amnesty period to focus and prioritize their services on exclusive humanitarian issues involving the citizens of Sri Lanka. Attempts to negotiate the set of rules

and regulations stipulated by the Controller General of Immigration and Emigration at the counters of the Consulate General will lead to unnecessary arguments which may ultimately lead to waste of valuable time which the staff of the Consulate General can allocate to assist other fellow Sri Lankans in need of assistance. It is important to remember that the Consulate General of Sri Lanka, as a Government entity, has to function exclusively under the law of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and it has limitations when assisting the Sri Lankans in Dubai and the Northern Emirates coming under its purview.

- The Consulate General of Sri Lanka, whilst expressing its maximum possible assistance to the fellow Sri Lankans during the proposed Amnesty period, encourages all Sri Lankans who stay illegally in the UAE to utilize this opportunity to legalize their stay in or exit from the UAE as responsible, law-abiding and decent citizens.