**Thailand outsources Visa Application Services to VFS Global in Kolkata**

**Kolkata, March 17, 2015**The Royal Thai Consulate-General, Kolkata today officially announced the launch of visa application processing service at a VFS Global centre in the city. For the first time, applicants in Kolkata will be able to submit their visa applications at a modern facility with five dedicated counters. Utmost convenience to applicants is assured by VFS Global and all personal information is guaranteed to be handled with highest confidentiality.

Important changes to the Thai visa application process, other than location and facility are the opening time, which is being extended to 3 pm every weekday. Also with prior appointment, bulk applications will be handled by specially appointed staff. All these changes show the effort of the Consulate to cope with the increasing visa demand, especially during the peak seasons.

Inaugurating the visa application centre, **Ms. Pattira Chiempricha, Acting Consul-General, The Royal Thai Consulate-General, Kolkata** stated, “*Ties between India and Thailand are closer than the distance in between. The Consulate strives to facilitate this thriving relationship. And today marks a great milestone in achieving this goal*”

**Mr Vinay Malhotra, COO - South Asia, VFS Global** added, *“We are honoured to support the initiatives of the Government of Thailand in India to facilitate the visa application process. The introduction of this service in Kolkata extends the convenience of a seamless visa application process to the travel trade fraternity and intended travellers to Thailand. We will continue to work together to deliver a professional and well-appointed end-to-end service.”*

Thailand has never lost its popularity as a top destination of Indian Nationals. Direct short flight connectivity contributes to high flow of travellers into Thailand. It takes only about two and half hours from Kolkata airport to reach the land of smiles. Yearly the Consulate grants as many as sixty thousand visas on average.

**Thailand Visa Application Centre details**

**Address:** 5th Floor, Rene tower, Plot No. AA-I, 1842, Rajdanga Main Road, Kasba, Kolkata-700107, India
**Business Hours: 0900 hrs to 1700 hrs from Monday to Friday
Email:** infothai.northin@vfshelpline.com
**Working Hours:** Monday to Friday (Except Holidays as declared by the Royal Thai Consulate, Kolkata)

Acceptance of Applications for all Applicants/Reperesentatives: 0900hrs to 1500hrs
Acceptance of Applications for Travel agents: 0900hrs to 1100hrs
Return delivery of Applications: 1500 hrs to 1700 hrs

Additional Courier and form filling charges as applicable to be borne by the applicant if elected.

*VFS Global will be responsible for accepting applications for all visa categories. Timelines for turnaround of visas are as per the discretion of the authorities*

**About VFS Global**

VFS Global is the world's largest outsourcing and technology services specialist for governments and diplomatic missions worldwide. With **1514 Application Centres** and operations in **120 countries** across **five continents** as at 31 January 2015, VFS Global serves the interests of **45 client governments.** The company has successfully processed over **94 million applications** since its inception in 2001. VFS Global’s worldwide operations are certified **ISO 9001:2008** for Quality Management System, **ISO 27001:2005** for Information Security Management System and **ISO 14001:2004** for Environmental Management System by TÜV SÜD, one of the world’s leading external and independent certification bodies. For more information, please visit [www.vfsglobal.com](http://www.vfsglobal.com)

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