

**Embassy of India to Ethiopia
Addis Ababa**

PRESS RELEASE

India and Ethiopia Operationalized Bilateral Visa Waiver Agreement for Diplomatic Passport Holders-Bolstering Strategic Partnership

The Governments of the Republic of India and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia had announced the formal implementation of the Agreement on Mutual Visa Waiver for holders of Diplomatic Passports from 15 January 2026. This landmark move marks a significant milestone in the diplomatic history of the two nations, paving the way for visa free travel for diplomatic passport holders. This agreement reaffirms commitment of both New Delhi and Addis Ababa to a partnership that is not only historic but also strategic and forward looking.

The operationalization of this agreement follows the historic visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Ethiopia in mid-December 2025. During that visit, Prime Minister Shri Modi and Prime Minister Dr. Abiy Ahmed formally elevated bilateral relations to a "Strategic Partnership," reflecting a shared vision for South-South cooperation.

Addis Ababa
15 January 2026