



03 OCT 2019

Jacob Bobby E
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File No: DOIA 1920-0426

Dear Jacob Bobby E

Thank you for your email of 7 September 2019, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) regarding partnership based visa applications processed by Immigration New Zealand (INZ) Mumbai between December 2018 and March 2019:

1. *Total number of partnership based visa applications received in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai. Please provide numbers for each month.*
2. *Of the total number of partnership based visa applications received in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, how many have been processed as of today? Please provide numbers for each month.*
3. *Total number of Partner of a New Zealander visitor visa applications received in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai. Please provide numbers for each month.*
4. *Of the total number of Partner of a New Zealander visitor visa applications received in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, how many have been processed as of today? Please provide numbers for each month.*
5. *The exact date until which partnership based visa application processing has completed.*
6. *Total number of trained immigration officers available in INZ Mumbai to handle partnership based visa applications, as of today.*
7. *Do you have plans to increase the number of immigration officers that will handle partnership applications currently handled by INZ Mumbai?*

We contacted you by email on 10 September 2019, 11 September 2019 and 12 September 2019 to clarify your request. We received your response by email on 10 September 2019 and 11 September 2019 which amended your request as follows:

Information regarding partnership based visa applications processed by INZ Mumbai between December 2018 and March 2019:

1. *Total number of partnership based visa applications accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai. Please provide numbers for each month.*



2. *Of the total number of partnership based visa applications accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, how many have been completed as of today? Please provide numbers for each month.*
3. *Total number of Partner of a New Zealander visitor visa applications accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai. Please provide numbers for each month.*
4. *Of the total number of Partner of a New Zealander visitor visa applications accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, how many have been completed as of today? Please provide numbers for each month.*
5. *The Partner of a New Zealander visitor visa applications that INZ Mumbai has received in the month of February 2019, until which date have they completed allocating to an Immigration Officer.*
6. *Total number of trained immigration officers available in INZ Mumbai to handle partnership based visa applications, as of today.*
7. *Do you have plans to increase the number of immigration officers that will handle partnership applications currently handled by INZ Mumbai?*

Our response

1. *Table A provides the total number of partnership based visa applications that have been accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai.*

Table A

Application Type	Application Criteria	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019
Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	3	5	6	2
	Partnership*	32	70	98	95
Work	Partner of NZAID Student	1	-	1	2
	Partner of Student	33	39	21	41
	Partner of a worker	12	31	18	43
	Partnership*	6	12	11	13

* Partnership is defined as partner of a New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder.

2. *Of the total number of partnership based visa applications accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, how many have been completed as of today? Please provide numbers for each month.*

It is important to note the partnership based visa applications that have been accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, may not necessarily be decided by INZ Mumbai. The applications can be allocated and decided by a different INZ office.

Table One attached at Appendix One shows the number of partnership based visa applications accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, which have been decided as of 01 October 2019 by all INZ offices.

Table Two attached at Appendix One shows the number of partnership based visa applications accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, which have been decided as of 01 October 2019 by INZ Mumbai.

3. *Table B provides the total number of visitor visa applications under partnership* accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai.*

Table B

Month Accepted	Partnership of a visitor
Dec 2018	32
Jan 2019	70
Feb 2019	98
Mar 2019	95
Total	295

* Partnership is defined as partner of a New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder.

4. *Of the total number of Partner of a New Zealander visitor visa applications accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, how many have been completed as of today*? Please provide numbers for each month.*

It is important to note the visitor visa applications under partnership that have been accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, may not necessarily be decided by INZ Mumbai. The applications can be allocated and decided by a different INZ office.

It is worth noting that partnership is defined as partner of a New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder.

Table C shows the number of visitor visa applications under partnership accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, which have been decided as of 01 October 2019 by all INZ offices.

Table C

Completed Month	Approved	Declined
Dec 2018	4	1
Jan 2019	1	7
Feb 2019	1	4
Mar 2019	1	9
Apr 2019	1	4
May 2019	3	10
Jun 2019	3	4
Jul 2019	3	1
Aug 2019	11	6
Sep 2019	1	16
Total	29	62

Table D shows the number of visitor visa applications under partnership accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, which have been decided as of 01 October 2019 by INZ Mumbai.

Table D

Completed Month	Approved	Declined
Mar 2019	-	1
Apr 2019	-	2
May 2019	1	-
Jun 2019	2	4
Jul 2019	2	-
Aug 2019	11	6
Sep 2019	1	16
Total	17	29

5. *The Partner of a New Zealander visitor visa applications that INZ Mumbai has received in the month of February 2019, until which date have they completed allocating to an Immigration Officer.*

As of 12 September 2019, the date of the oldest unallocated application lodged as a Visitor Visa, Partnership, on hand in INZ Mumbai and tendered in February is 25 February 2019.

6. *Total number of trained immigration officers available in INZ Mumbai to handle partnership based visa applications, as of today.*

As of 7 September 2019, INZ had 8 trained immigration officers in the INZ Mumbai office who are able to assess partnership applications. INZ Mumbai have a further 23 immigration officers in training all of whom will be fully trained by 23 September 2019.

7. *Do you have plans to increase the number of immigration officers that will handle partnership applications currently handled by INZ Mumbai?*

Yes, 5 additional immigration officers will be assessing partnership applications from 16 September 2019. A further 18 additional immigration officers will be assessing partnership applications from 23 September 2019.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Aurora Tang, Senior Business Advisor, Operations Support, Immigration New Zealand at Aurora.Tang@mbie.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Jeannie Melville
National Manager – Education & Tourism
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Appendix One

Table One: Number of partnership based visa applications accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, which have been decided as of 01 October 2019 by all INZ offices:

Completed Month	Application Type	Application Criteria	Approved	Declined	Withdrawn no fee refund
Dec 2018	Visitor's	Partnership*	4	1	-
	Work	Partner of Student	1	-	-
Jan 2019	Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	-	2	-
		Partnership*	1	7	-
	Work	Partner of Student	4	1	1
		Partner of a worker	2	1	-
		Partnership*	2	2	-
Feb 2019	Visitor's	Partnership*	1	4	-
	Work	Partner of Student	6	-	-
		Partner of a worker	1	1	-
Mar 2019	Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	-	2	-
		Partnership*	1	9	-
	Work	Partner of NZAID Student	1	-	-
		Partner of Student	2	-	1
		Partner of a worker	7	4	-
Partnership*	4	2	-		
Apr 2019	Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	-	3	-
		Partnership*	1	4	-
	Work	Partner of NZAID Student	1	-	-
		Partner of Student	15	4	-
		Partner of a worker	10	1	1
Partnership*	2	1	-		
May 2019	Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	-	5	-
		Partnership*	3	10	-
	Work	Partner of NZAID Student	-	1	-
		Partner of Student	12	2	-
		Partner of a worker	6	2	-
Partnership*	3	3	-		
Jun 2019	Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	1	1	-
		Partnership*	3	4	-
	Work	Partner of Student	12	2	1
		Partner of a worker	7	1	-
Partnership*	-	1	-		
Jul 2019	Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	-	2	-
		Partnership*	3	1	-
	Work	Partner of Student	25	1	2
		Partner of a worker	19	-	1
Partnership*	-	1	-		

Aug 2019	Visitor's	Partnership*	11	6	-
	Work	Partner of Student	7	2	-
		Partner of a worker	7	1	-
		Partnership*	-	2	-
Sep 2019	Visitor's	Partnership*	1	16	-
	Work	Partner of Student	3	1	1
		Partner of a worker	1	1	1
		Partnership*	1	2	-
Oct 2019	Work	Partner of a worker	-	1	-
Total			194	123	9

* Partnership is defined as partner of a New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder.

Table Two: Number of partnership based visa applications accepted in December 2018, January, February and March 2019 by INZ Mumbai, which have been decided as of 01 October 2019 by INZ Mumbai:

Completed Month	Application Type	Application Criteria	Approved	Declined	Withdrawn no fee refund
Dec 2018	Visitor's	Partnership*	-	-	-
	Work	Partner of Student	-	-	-
Jan 2019	Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	-	-	-
		Partnership*	-	-	-
	Work	Partner of Student	3	-	1
		Partner of a worker	-	-	-
		Partnership*	-	-	-
Feb 2019	Visitor's	Partnership*	-	-	-
	Work	Partner of Student	5	-	-
		Partner of a worker	-	-	-
		Partnership*	-	-	-
Mar 2019	Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	-	2	-
		Partnership*	-	1	-
	Work	Partner of NZAID Student	1	-	-
		Partner of Student	1	-	1
		Partner of a worker	-	-	-
		Partnership*	-	-	-
Apr 2019	Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	-	3	-
		Partnership*	-	2	-
	Work	Partner of NZAID Student	1	-	-
		Partner of Student	9	4	-
		Partner of a worker	2	-	-
		Partnership*	-	-	-
May 2019	Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	-	2	-
		Partnership*	1	-	-
	Work	Partner of NZAID Student	-	-	-

		Partner of Student	9	2	-
		Partner of a worker	2	1	-
		Partnership*	-	1	-
Jun 2019	Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	1	-	-
		Partnership*	2	4	-
	Work	Partner of Student	9	-	1
		Partner of a worker	2	-	-
		Partnership*	-	1	-
Jul 2019	Visitor's	Entry for a cultural marriage	-	2	-
		Partnership*	2	-	-
	Work	Partner of Student	22	1	2
		Partner of a worker	18	-	1
		Partnership*	-	1	-
Aug 2019	Visitor's	Partnership*	11	6	-
	Work	Partner of Student	5	2	-
		Partner of a worker	5	1	-
		Partnership*	-	2	-
Sep 2019	Visitor's	Partnership*	1	16	-
	Work	Partner of Student	2	1	1
		Partner of a worker	-	1	1
		Partnership*	1	2	-
Oct 2019	Work	Partner of a worker	-	1	-
Total			115	59	8

* Partnership is defined as partner of a New Zealand citizen or residence class visa holder.

