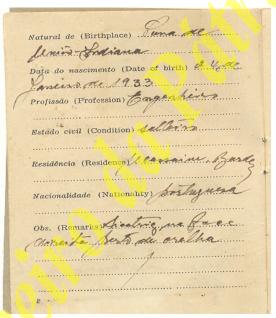
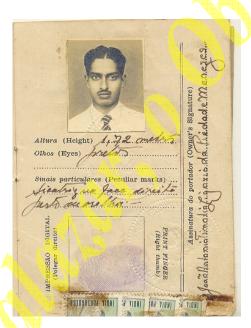
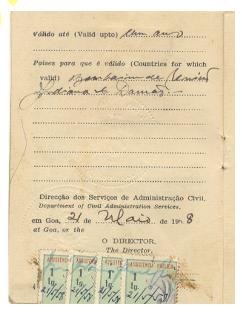
Documento para Viagem

Issued by the Portuguese State of India and mandated from August 1, 1954 for travel to the Indian Union.



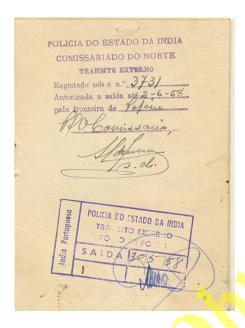






This document could be applied for in the capitals of the eleven districts of Goa as also in Damão and Diu and was signed by the Director of Civil Administration in Goa and the Governors of Damão and Diu. The validity was one year from the date of issue for departure. However, the Portuguese authorities accepted for entry only an official birth or birth registration certificate (Certidão Narrative or

Certidão de Teor) or a church baptismal certificate issued in Portuguese India or a valid or expired Documento para Viagem. Portuguese passports were liable to render the holder into difficulties with the Indian authorities and were used only by Goans living outside of the Indian Union, namely, in Pakistan, Aden, British East Africa etc. and these had to be visaed by the Indian Consulate General in Pangim for entry into India; most holders preferred to travel between Karachi and Goa.









From August 1, 1954 Portuguese Citizens leaving or entering Goa via Colem presented the Documento para Viagem (or alternative papers as above, for entry) only to Portuguese Immigration at Colem; for them to enter India at Castle Rock Railway Station the Government of India issued through its Consulate General in Pangim a separate entry permit in the form of a booklet with the holder's personal particulars and a visa stamped on one of the blank pages.



Prior to departure from Goa the Documento para Viagem (as also the Portuguese passport wherever used) had to be visaed for exit within a specified time-limit by the district police headquarters for which the application had to be lodged a week in advance of departure. Portuguese Citizens of Damão and Diu were required to obtain their permits to enter the Indian Union for the Indian district collectorates adjoining these territories.

In July 1955 the Madras and Southern Mahratta (MSM) Railway suddenly ceased sending its rail cars beyond Castle Rock Station into Goa and the Western India Portuguese (WIP) Railway, a British run concessionary which also managed the Port of Mormugão, plied between Caranzol and Mormugão, i.e., its locomotives were stopped by India from taking off from Castle Rock Station. On the abrupt cessation of the India – Goa rail link, persons carrying Indian Consulate-General permits showed up at Castle Rock Station after having walked along the railway line from the farthest rail-head in Goa.

On September 1, 1955 consular relations between India and Portugal ceased and all the frontiers were sealed to human traffic except for certain cases allowed by India on political grounds. Early 1956 the Government of India started to issue permits for Portuguese India on "compassionate grounds" from the Ministry of External Affairs Office for Goa positioned in the state government secretariat in

Bombay. With effect from April 3, 1958 India abolished the permit system for Portuguese Citizens of Portuguese Indian origin but access to Goa was via Majali – Polem to the extreme south.