

Grant of Permanent Residency Status (PRS) to foreign investors

Background/ objective :

In pursuance of the announcement made in the Union Budget for 2016-17, the scheme for grant of Permanent Residency Status (PRS) to foreign investors was approved by the Cabinet at the meeting held on 31.8.2016. Instructions conveying the details of the PRS scheme were issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on 17.10.2016.

Details of the scheme

Permanent Residency Status (PRS) will be granted to a foreign investor making an investment of minimum of Rs.10 crores to be brought within 18 months or Rs.25 crores to be brought within 36 months under FDI route and resulting in employment for at least 20 resident Indians in every financial year. PRS will also be granted to the spouse/ dependents of the eligible foreign investor. The scheme will not be applicable to Pakistani citizens or third country nationals of Pakistani origin.

PRS will be provided for 10 years with multiple entry with further extension for another 10 years. There will be no restriction on stay on each visit and no registration will be required with FRRO/ FRO. PRS holders will be allowed to purchase one residential property for dwelling purpose. Spouse/ dependents of the investor who are granted PRS will be allowed to take up employment in private sector on the basis of the PRS with the permission of the FRRO/ FRO concerned. The minimum salary limit of US \$25,000 per annum prescribed for grant of Employment visa to foreign nationals will not be applicable in such cases. Further, spouse/ dependents of the investor who are granted PRS can undertake studies in India without a separate Student Visa.

Benefits expected

The scheme is expected to encourage foreign investment in India and facilitate the Government of India's Make in India Programme.
