

VISA PAK ISSUE 356 — 11 MAY 2018

## **TOURISM INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP MOU – INDIA**

Immigration underpins tourism and export education, one of New Zealand’s biggest services export industries. Immigration New Zealand (INZ) has developed several industry partnerships within the education and tourism sector. The intent of these partnerships is to facilitate improved visa processing timeliness and streamlined processes by enabling INZ and its partners to share risk and responsibility.

Since 2014 the Indian ‘Trusted Industry Partnership’ (TIP) has only been available for Business Visitor Visa applications; however, this has now been extended to leisure travellers. The four travel agents are:

1. Thomas Cook
2. Kulin Kumar
3. SOTC
4. Cox & Kings

Leisure is a term used to describe the following type of activity: genuine tourists, travelling to New Zealand for Tourism purposes – holidaying, sightseeing. It is not intended for sponsored visitors, or visitors entering New Zealand for family or social visits.

A unique client contact number, *67034378 TIP Leisure India*, will be added as a contact for all TIP Leisure applications from the four key Travel Agents to ensure these clients can be identified easily. Business event and Leisure TIP Travel Agents will be responsible for verifying all information and documentation that they receive in support of business event and leisure visitor visa applications, and will be required to demonstrate to INZ that they have completed the necessary pre-screening procedures upon request.

### **Onshore**

If an applicant who has entered New Zealand under a TIP visa and applies to extend their stay or alter their visa conditions, the immigration officer should consider the client’s bona fides. This could include what the client’s original intention was stated as and how this differs from the purpose of the subsequent application.