

FEBRUARY VISA AVAILABILITY

The bulletin issued by the Visa Office of the Bureau of Consular Affairs of the U.S. Department of State gives the following availability position for issuance of immigrant visas during February 2005:

Persons Chargeable to India

Family-Sponsored Preferences

1st Preference	Jan. 22, 2001
2nd Preference	
2A	Oct. 01, 2000
2B	Aug. 22, 1995
3rd Preference	Jan. 08, 1998
4th Preference	May 15, 1992

Employment-Based Preferences

1st Preference	Current
2nd Preference	Current
3rd Preference	JAN 01, 2002
Other Workers	Current
4th Preference	Current
Certain Religious	
Workers	Current
5th Preference	Current
Targeted Emp	
Areas	Current

Persons Chargeable to Other Countries

For other chargeability areas, including Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom, and the nations of Africa, the cut-off dates for February 2005 are:

Family-Sponsored Preferences

1st Preference	Jan. 22, 2001
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2nd Preference	
2A	Oct. 01, 2000
2B	Aug. 22, 1995
3rd Preference	Jan. 08, 1998
4th Preference	Jan. 08, 1993

Employment-Based Preferences

1st Preference	Current
2nd Preference	Current
3rd Preference	Current
Other Workers	Current
4th Preference	Current
Certain Religious	
Workers	Current
5th Preference	Current
Targeted Emp	
Areas	Current

It is important to note that Employment-based India 3rd Preference is not current any more.

WHAT DOES PERM ENTAIL?

PERM [“Program Electronic Review Management”] relating to permanent labor certifications, to be effective on March 28, 2005, has the following salient features:

It will require the filing of a newly developed Application for Permanent Employment Certification [*Form ETA 9089*].

The State Workforce Agencies [“SWA”s] will be involved only as relates to determination of the prevailing wage for the job offered at a specific location within the state.

Labor certification applications will be filed directly with the U.S. Department of Labor.