

# Biometrics w.e.f. April 28<sup>th</sup> , 2014

As a mandate, applicants must have their biometrics (facial capture and fingerprints) recorded when they hand in a visa application at the BLS India Visa & Consular Services Center.

## Mandatory biometrics

The following applicants must have their biometric data recorded when submitting their applications in regions with biometrics:

Recording of bio-metric data required:	Age limit
Facial capture	12 to 70 years
Fingerprints	12 to 70 years

### Admissibility

**Note:** The Embassy of India, The Hague will not start processing the application until they have received the biometric data. If the applicant refuses to have his/her picture taken or fingerprints recorded, the Embassy of India, The Hague may refuse the application due to missing information.

### 5 years period

Please note: The fingerprints shall also be recorded if the applicant has the finger-prints recorded within the last 5 years. The applicant may not to have record the fingerprints again, because fingerprints can be copied from previous applications within a 5 years period. Applicants are requested to record the fingerprints in case the old prints cannot be copied.

### Mandatory biometrics

If the fingerprints taken do not meet the required quality standards, the fingerprints must be taken again after cleaning of fingers and equipment. The fingerprints with the best quality value should be collected.

If it is not possible to obtain prints of all ten fingers, then the maximum number of fingerprints would be collected and this shall be registered on the case.

### Exceptions – no recording of fingerprints

certain categories of applicants are exempted from the requirement to give fingerprints even though biometrics is mandatory in the specific region.

- Children under the age of 12 and adults above 70 years.
- Heads of State or government and members (diplomats) of a national government with accompanying spouses, and the members of their official delegation when they are invited by Member States' governments or by international organizations for an official purpose;
- Sovereigns and other senior members of a royal family, when they are invited by Member States' governments or by international organizations for an official purpose.