

NOVEMBER 3, 2011 BULLETIN TO ALL IMMIGRATION CLIENTS

**ALL BLANKET L VISA PROCESSING IN INDIA TO MOVE TO THE U.S.
CONSULATE GENERAL IN CHENNAI ON DECEMBER 1, 2011**

Effective December 1, 2011, the U.S. Consulate General in Chennai will become the sole acceptance center in India for all applications for intracompany transfers filed under the blanket L category. The U.S. Embassy in New Delhi and U.S. Consulates in Mumbai, Kolkata and Hyderabad will no longer accept or process applications for this visa category.

Typically, for a regular L-1 visa, a U.S. company must file a petition with the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (CIS), which evaluates each petition on its own merits. With a blanket L visa petition, CIS has already determined that the company qualifies for the issuance of such visas, which permits certain beneficiaries to apply for a visa directly at the U.S. consulate or embassy having jurisdiction over the place of residence.

The blanket L category includes specialized knowledge professionals, executives and managers. All other visa processing procedures remain unchanged.

Please note that spouse and children visas (L2) and individual L visa petitions (L1B and L1A individuals) may be processed at all posts in India—Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, and New Delhi.

Please contact any member of the Cohen & Grigsby Immigration Department at 412.297.4900 if you have any questions regarding this information. To receive future bulletins by e-mail, please send an e-mail to info@cohenlaw.com.

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