

Apostille of Documents – Guidelines for India and Lithuania

India and Lithuania are both signatories to the Hague Convention of 5 October 1961 abolishing the requirement of legalisation for foreign public documents (commonly known as the Apostille Convention). Therefore, public documents such as educational certificates, birth certificates, and marriage certificates issued in either country and duly apostilled by the competent authority are legally valid in the other country without the need for further attestation by the Embassy or Consulate.

Below is a detailed explanation based on the origin of the documents:

a) Documents Originating in India

Documents such as educational certificates, birth certificates, marriage certificates, etc., issued in India and intended for use in Lithuania (or any other Hague Convention country), must be apostilled by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), New Delhi.

- Apostille is issued by the CPV Division of the Ministry of External Affairs, and no further legalization is required by the Lithuanian authorities.
- The apostilled document can be presented directly to Lithuanian institutions.

For detailed instructions and online application, please visit:

<https://www.mea.gov.in/apostille-menu.htm>

b) Documents Originating in Lithuania

Documents issued in Lithuania, such as academic, civil, or legal documents, must be apostilled by the competent Lithuanian authorities to be used in India or other Hague Convention countries.

- Notaries in Lithuania are authorized to issue apostilles for most public documents.
- The list of authorized notaries can be found at:
<https://www.notarurumai.lt/en/notaries/35>

Additionally, the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania issues apostilles for:

- Documents received from Lithuanian diplomatic missions or consular offices;
- Documents issued by public prosecutors or court officers.

For more details, please visit:

<https://keliauk.urm.lt/en/consular-services/legalisation>

c) Commercial Documents to Be Presented in India

Commercial documents originating from Lithuania and intended for use in India must:

- Be apostilled by the relevant Lithuanian authority (e.g., notary).
- Undergo counter-attestation by the Embassy of India in Vilnius, as India requires commercial documents to be authenticated even if they are apostilled.

If you require further assistance regarding apostille or attestation procedures, please feel free to contact the Consular Section of the Embassy of India, Vilnius.