

Application of Sustainable Development Fee (SDF) for all categories of foreigners (other than tourists) shall be as follows:

Sl. No.	Category	Approved proposal
1	Nationals of Thailand and Switzerland with diplomatic and official passport	SDF to be waived only if the purpose of visit is for official business If purpose of visit is tourism, then SDF shall be imposed and collected at the port of entry
2	Nationals of Member States of SAARC issued with SAARC visa exemption sticker.	SDF to be waived only if the purpose of visit is for official business If purpose of visit is tourism, then SDF shall be imposed and collected at the port of entry
3	Foreign workers approved by Labour and Immigration	SDF to be waived
4	Foreigners married to Bhutanese and their legitimate children	SDF to be waived
5	Foreign students including monks and nuns undertaking a regular study program	SDF to be waived
6	Promoters and Investors of FDI	SDF to be waived for established FDI companies in the Kingdom No waiver of SDF during feasibility visits
7	Direct dependents of promoters, investors of established FDI in the country	SDF to be waived
8	Diplomats, officials of resident missions, Embassies/consulates and their dependents	SDF to be waived
9	Officials of International organizations based in Bhutan and their direct dependents	SDF to be waived
10	Uniformed personnel of IMTRAT and DANTAK posted to Bhutan and their direct dependents.	SDF to be waived
11	Expatriate traders holding a valid business license and trader card and their direct dependents	SDF to be waived

12	Day workers and process workers in the factories and industries in the border towns	SDF to be waived
13	Casual visitors in the border towns	SDF to be waived for visitors (nationals of India) to border towns provided they do not halt the night or travel beyond the first designated point
14	Two Personal guests per year for Bhutanese	SDF to be waived for personal guest of Bhutanese (a maximum of 2 persons per year)
15	Two personal guests of Diplomats and professionals working in Bhutan	Personal guest facility be discontinued for diplomats and professionals working in Bhutan. However, SDF to be waived for parents and adult children of diplomats and professionals working in Bhutan
16	Participants of Meetings, Incentives, conferences, exhibitions (MICE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No waiver of SDF • Cost of SDF for participants to be borne by the host agency/RGoB • SDF to be deposited into the account of Dol • Meeting/conference must be recommended/endorsed by the Foreign Secretary, MFA
17	Journalist and media personnel	SDF to be waived only if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Invited by RGoB to cover events of national significance or importance b) Accompanying the Head of State/Government of a country on an official visit to Bhutan c) Must be endorsed by Foreign Secretary, MFA
18	Official guests of government, civil society, religious organizations (including devotees and pilgrims coming for religious events), corporations, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No waiver of SDF for official guests of any agency, CSO, etc. • Cost of SDF to be borne by the host agency SDF to be deposited into the account of Dol
19	Pilgrims to Gomkora, hindu pilgrims to Jayanti Mahakal temple (near Pling)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDF to be waived only if the pilgrims stay within Trashi Yangtse and the pilgrimage site for the duration of the festival
20	Volunteers of international organizations based in Bhutan and Interns working for a licensed agency in Bhutan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers of international organizations such as TICA, JICA, AVID, HVO based in Bhutan are permitted entry either as foreign workers or as officials of international organizations based in Bhutan

21	Sports professionals – taking part in sporting events, on contract with licensed clubs, trainers etc.	SDF to be waived based on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation by Bhutan Olympic Committee • Political clearance from MFA • Approval from C4CS or Cabinet
22	Other categories not listed in this list	Application to be submitted to Department of Immigration. DoI to seek approval from C4CS or Cabinet

NOTE:

Applications for foreigners covered under Sl. nos. 17, 21 and 22 must be submitted to the Department of Immigration at least 10 working days before the intended date of arrival of the foreigner in the country.

Applications for all other categories must be submitted at least 5 working days before the intended date of arrival of the foreigner in the country.