



Embassy of Italy  
Dhaka

## NOTICE

The huge amount of fake appointment requests for submission of visa applications and of detected forgeries in the related documentation is having a negative impact on the standard processing of visa applications.

Further compromising a smooth handling of all visa applications is the unlawful activities by self-appointed brokers and any intermediaries involved. Unashamedly, in order to extort money from unsuspecting applicants, they continuously spread rumours and allegations about VFS staff asking for conspicuous amounts of money in exchange for fast-tracking the submission and processing of visa applications. We urge genuine applicants to be vigilant at all times in order not to be fooled by such unscrupulous criminal behaviour.

In such an unhealthy environment, we are fully aware that genuine applicants unfortunately have to endure undue delay and experience difficulties in getting proper service.

On a daily basis the Embassy of Italy is itself the target of both understandable complaints from genuine applicants as well as undue pressure from private and, unfortunately, even institutional sources. The amounts of mail, emails, phone calls and mobile text-messaging are having the same effect on the normal working processes as would a denial-of-service attack on an internet site.

As a result, we deem it necessary to reorganize visa-issuing procedures. This will definitely take time, causing unavoidable delays in both preliminary screening by VFS as well as final approval by the Embassy's visa section.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause to genuine applicants.