Bangladeshis can now work remotely from Spain: here's how

Spain has it all: pleasant weather, a low cost of living, delectable cuisine, and breathtaking scenery. Additionally, the Mediterranean country has some of the fastest internet speeds in Europe, making it a popular choice for expats and remote workers.

The country is now an even more desirable option thanks to the recently introduced digital nomad visa. As part of the recently passed Startup Law, which aims to position the country as a leader in luring investment, inventive entrepreneurship, and talent, the programme has been in effect since January.

Eligibility for the Digital Nomad visa
Nationals of non-EU/EAA countries who work remotely, whether as employees or as independent contractors, are eligible for the visa. They must work primarily for non-Spanish businesses, with up to 20% of their total income coming from Spanish businesses.

Prospective digital nomads cannot currently be residing illegally in Spain during the application process, nor can they have done so within the five years prior to applying.

Before applying, candidates must be able to show that they had been employed by their clients or company for at least three months, and the business they work for must have been in operation for at least one year. They're also required to prove that they can do their job remotely.

In terms of background, potential visa holders must demonstrate that they are either graduates or postgraduates from prestigious universities, vocational training programmes, or prestigious business schools, or that they have a minimum of three years of work experience.

Evidence of financial self-sufficiency is equally crucial. Those requesting a visa must earn 200% of Spain's monthly minimum wage in order to demonstrate that they can support themselves there. This currently equals BDT 2,62,810 per month.

Additionally, spouses and children may travel to Spain with visa holders; in this case, the income threshold is increased by 25% for each additional family member.

Applicants must also have had no arrests within the previous five years, and for the time being, they must obtain full private health insurance.

How to apply
The initial validity of the Spanish visa for digital nomads is 12 months, or if shorter, the duration of the employment period. After five years, it can be renewed once more, at which point a permanent residency application can be made.

Digital nomads who are interested can submit an application through an embassy or consulate in their home country or enter Spain on a tourist visa and submit an application within the first three months.

The following documents must be provided by applicants:
Copy of the National Visa Application Form that has been completed

Two passport photos and a valid passport

A work contract or letter from the employer attesting to the remote professional activity is proof of suitable employment

Evidence that the business or employer has been operational for at least a year

Evidence of income (payslips, work contract, bank statements)

University degree, professional certificate, or evidence of at least three years of experience.

Evidence of valid health insurance that is allowed to operate in Spain

Certificates for the previous five years' criminal background checks

Evidence of family ties to other applicants (marriage certificate, birth certificate)

The application fee is roughly Tk. 9000, though the precise amount may differ slightly depending on the nation from which you submit your application

Processing time for the visa ranges from 15 to 45 days.