

Recent Changes in OCI Cardholder Scheme

1. Erstwhile PIO cards would continue to be considered valid for entry /exit through the Indian ICPs till 31.12.2025. However, if any deadline is notified by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) making handwritten travel documents invalid, the PIO cardholders will have to obtain appropriate visas from Indian Missions for travelling to India. No further extension beyond 31.12.2025 will be given and they will have to get their PIO Cards converted by 31.12.2025 else they will have to get Visa from Indian Missions/Posts abroad for travel to India and service of 'New Visa' from the FRROs on the e-FRRO online portal if they are already living in India.
2. With a view to facilitate OCI related services to foreign nationals who are residing in the National Capital Region (NCR), MHA has issued instructions transferring the Districts of Gautam Budh Nagar and Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh from the jurisdiction of FRRO, Lucknow to FRRO, Delhi.
3. The Central Government has delegated the powers vested under section 7 A (3) of The Citizenship Act, 1955 to
 - (i) The Head of the Indian Mission in Suriname to consider the applications submitted by the descendants up to sixth generation of the original Indian immigrants who had arrived in the Suriname as indentured labourers and living in Netherlands, for getting registered as OCI cardholders on the merit of each case.
 - (ii) the Head of the Indian Consulate in the Reunion Island, French Territory to consider applications submitted by the descendants up to the sixth generation of the original Indian immigrants who had arrived in the Reunion Island as migrants and indentured labourers from the Indian

territories, for getting registered as OCI cardholders on the merit of each case.

- (iii) the Head of the Indian Embassy in Suriname and the Head of Indian Mission in Mauritius to consider applications submitted by the descendants up to the respective sixth and seventh generation of the original Indian immigrants who had arrived in these countries as migrants and indentured labourer from the Indian territories, for getting registered as OCI cardholders on the merit of each case.
 - (iv) The Head of the Indian Mission in Mauritius to consider the applications submitted by the descendants up to seventh generation of the original Indian immigrants who had arrived in the Mauritius as migrants and indentured labourers from the Indian territories, for getting registered as OCI cardholders on the merit of each case.
 - (v) The Head of the Indian Mission in Paris to consider the applications submitted by the descendants up to sixth generation of the original Indian immigrants who had arrived in the French territories of Martinique and Gaudeloupe as migrants and indentured labourers from the Indian territories, for getting registered as OCI cardholders on the merit of each case.
 - (vi) The Head of the Indian Mission in Georgetown, Guyana to consider the applications submitted by the descendants up to sixth generation of the original Indian immigrants who had arrived in the Guyana as migrants and indentured labourers from the Indian territories, for getting registered as OCI cardholders on the merit of each case.
4. OCI Cardholders must ensure that they do not possess Voter ID, Ration Cards etc.