

Press Release

Merger of PIO Card with OCI Card

Government of India had earlier announced that PIO Cards will be replaced by OCI Cards.

- 2. The deadline for applying for replacement of PIO Cards with OCI Cards was 17th June 2015. This deadline has now been extended to **30.9.2015**. Please note that this extension of deadline is for erstwhile PIO Cardholders with valid PIO Cards as on 9.1.2015.
- 3. The grant of OCI Card in lieu of PIO Card will be on gratis basis.
- 4. The application for OCI can be made at the website https://passport.gov.in/oci.
- 5. The following benefits will accrue to an OCI:
- (i) A multiple entry, multi-purpose lifelong visa for visiting India.
- (ii) Exemption from registration with the local police authorities for any length of stay in India.
- (iii) Parity with Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) in respect of economic, financial and educational fields, except in relation to acquisition of agricultural or plantation properties.
- 6. Any other benefits to OCIs will be notified by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs (MOIA) under Section 7B(1) of the Citizenship Act, 1955.
- 7. Detailed instructions such as Brochure, FAQs, Application fees, and documents required for OCI Card are available on the link: http://mha1.nic.in/foreigDiv/OCI.html

Kyiv June 16, 2015