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Press Release

Conversion of Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) card into Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) card

The last date for conversion of PIO cards into OCI cards is 31st December 2017. This date will not be extended any further.

The existing PIO cards being handwritten and non-machine readable will become invalid travel document with effect from October 2018 onward. The international Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) will accept only machine readable travel documents after this date. Once the ICAO guidelines come into effect, any individual travelling to India on handwritten PIO Card will be refused entry at the Indian immigration counters and will be sent back.

Conversion of PIO to OCI card after 31st Dec 2017 will attract a fee of USD 275, equivalent to fee applicable for issue of fresh OCI card.

All PIO card holders are therefore requested to get their PIO cards converted into OCI cards.

Melbourne

November 23, 2017