



**Embassy of India
Kuwait**

PRESS RELEASE

Extension of Deadline to Convert PIO Cards to OCI Cards

The Government of India had been issuing PIO Cards to Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) living abroad. However, the PIO Scheme was phased out by the Gol in the year 2015 and the persons holding PIO Cards were requested to get their PIO Cards converted to OCI Cards. Guidelines in this regard had been widely circulated earlier.

2. There are still a large number of PIOs who have not converted their PIO Cards to OCI. Therefore, **the Government of India has now decided to extend the deadline for conversion of PIOs to OCIs till 31 December 2023. All Indian Immigration Check Post(s) will continue to consider PIO Cards valid for exit/entry into India till 31 December, 2023, along with valid foreign Passport.**

3. Please also note that the above extension of timeline till 31 December 2023 is subject to the condition that if any new deadline is notified by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), making hand-written PIO Cards invalid, then PIO Card holders may have to obtain appropriate Visa from the Indian Embassy.

4. **PIO Card holders who have not done the conversion to OCI Cards so far, are again requested to apply for the conversion at the earliest**, by making an online application at [https://ociservices.gov.in/welcome\(OCI/Registration in lieu of Valid PIO Card\)](https://ociservices.gov.in/welcome(OCI/Registration%20in%20lieu%20of%20Valid%20PIO%20Card)). After submission of online application, a copy of the application form may be printed with an Online Registration Number. Application form, complete in all respects, along with all relevant enclosures and requisite fee (KD 32.000) may be submitted to the Indian Embassy (Consular Section).

**Kuwait
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