

NOTICE FOR OCI CARD HOLDERS

Subject : Re-issuance of Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cards due to issuance of new foreign passports to OCI cardholders – regarding

The OCI card is primarily a visa document and not an identity document for a foreigner.

2. The main identity and nationality document of a foreigner is the passport. It shall have his recent photo on it.

3. It has accordingly been decided, with the approval of the competent authority, as follows:-

(a) The existing requirement to re-issue an OCI card each time a new passport is issued to a foreigner up to 20 years of age and once after completing 50 years of age is dispensed with.

(b) However, an OCI cardholder shall have to get the OCI card re-issued once when a new passport is issued after completing 20 years of age so as to capture his/her facial features on attaining adulthood. For this purpose, the OCI cardholder shall submit an online application under OCI Miscellaneous Services with a fee of USD 25 or an amount equivalent in local currency. After submission of application, uploading of requisite documents and payment of fee, the applicant will have to visit the Indian Mission/Post/FRRO concerned along with original documents for verification of documents. The application will thereafter be processed by the Indian Mission/Post/FRRO concerned as per existing procedure.

(c) An OCI cardholder may upload a copy of the new passport containing the photo of the passport holder and also a latest photo on the online system under OCI Miscellaneous Services each time a new passport is issued up to 20 years of age and once after completing 50 years of age. These documents may be uploaded by the OCI cardholder within three month of receipt of the new passport. This service will be provided on gratis basis.

(d) In the case of those who have been registered as OCI cardholder as spouse of foreign origin of a citizen of India or spouse of foreign origin of an OCI cardholder under section 7A(1)(d) of The Citizenship Act,1955, the OCI cardholder shall upload of a copy of the new passport containing the photo of the passport holder and also a latest photo on the online system under OCI Miscellaneous Services each time a new passport is issued. In such cases, the OCI cardholder and his/her Indian spouse or OCI cardholder spouse will have to give a declaration that their marriage is still subsisting. Copy of the Indian passport of the Indian spouse/passport and OCI card of the OCI cardholder spouse shall also be uploaded in such cases. These documents may be uploaded by the OCI cardholder foreigner spouse within three months of receipt of his/her new passport. This service will be provided on gratis basis.

(e) Immediately on uploading of the documents mentioned in (iii) and (iv) above, an email will be auto sent by the system to the OCI cardholder confirming that the documents have been successfully uploaded.

(f) There will be no restriction on the OCI cardholder to travel to/from India during the period from the date of issue of new passport till the date of final acknowledgement of his/her documents in the online system.

(g) The time line for re-issuance of OCI cards in r/o OCI card holders, who may be required to get their OCI card re-issued has been extended until 31.12.2021.

(h) Requirement of carrying old and new passports along with the OCI card has been done away. Henceforth, the OCI card holders travelling on the strength of their existing OCI card bearing old passport number are not required to carry their old passport. However, carrying of new passport is mandatory.

4. A sub-portal under the name “Apply for Special Permission (Only for OCI cardholders)” has been created in the online OCI web portal at

<https://ociservices.gov.in/welcome>. The link has detailed instructions as well as documents required to be submitted for special permission from concerned authorities to undertake certain activities in India.

5. In order to facilitate OCI cardholders to update details of new passport (each time a new passport is issued up to 20 years of age and once after completing 50 years of age) and reissue of OCI card once a passport is issued after completing 20 years of age, the online OCI webportal has been suitably modified under “OCI Miscellaneous Services”. Detailed instructions in order to fill online Application form and requirement may be accessed at <https://ociservices.gov.in/welcome>.