

CONVERSION OF PIO CARDS TO OCI CARDS UPTO DEC.2017

Panaji, September 11, 2017

Bhadra 20, 1939

After the merger of the PIO Cards Scheme with the OCI Cards Scheme from January 2015, the Government of India had advised all the PIO card holders to switch over to the OCI Scheme, without levying any charges. The time limit for conversion of PIO levying any charges. The time limit for conversion of PIO Cards to OCI Cards, free of charge, was extended from time to time till December 2017.

However, the Ministry of Home Affairs has since clarified that those looking to convert their PIO Cards to OCI Cards in 2018, will be permitted to do so only on payment of a Fee. Further, the PIO Cards will become invalid travel documents after October 2018, and therefore the Ministry of Home Affairs has urged all persons of Indian origin to get their hand-written PIO Cards converted to machine readable OCI Cards before October 2018.

Foreign Citizen of Goa origin holding PIO Cards and residing in Goa or elsewhere in India, so also the Goan Diaspora across the world, may take note of the above decision of the Government of India and are advised to comply with the above requirement in their own interests.