

## Consulate General of India, Melbourne

### PRESS RELEASE

#### Conversion of PIO card to OCI card

##### PIO Card Validity Extended up to December 31, 2023

Indian Immigration will accept all Person of Indian Origin (PIO) cards (including handwritten ones) along with valid foreign passport, as valid travel document till December 31, 2023, instead of earlier deadline of December 31, 2022.

Indian Immigration Check Post(s) will continue to accept all PIO cards (which were valid as on January 9, 2015) valid for exit from/entry into India till December 31, 2023. This extension of timeline is subject to the condition that if in the meantime, any deadline is notified by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) thereby making handwritten PIO cards invalid, then PIO cardholders may have to obtain appropriate visa before travel.

All PIO cardholders (handwritten and machine-readable) are meanwhile advised to urgently apply for conversion of their PIO card to OCI card at **VFS Global**, which is the Outsourcing Service Provider of OCI Services, including PIO to OCI conversion. More details are available on link <https://services.vfsglobal.com/aus/en/ind/apply-oci-services>

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