

**Consulate General of India  
Melbourne**

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**Advisory on PIO cards**

PIO Card Validity Extended up to December 31, 2024

According to the recent guidelines issued by the Government of India (GoI), handwritten PIO cards will be accepted as valid travel documents along with valid foreign passport at all Indian Immigration Check Post(s) till December, 2024, instead of earlier circulated deadline of December, 2023.

2. As per these recent guidelines, Bureau of Immigration (BoI) will accept PIO card as a valid travel document till 31.12.2024 along with valid foreign passport and the Indian Immigration Check Post(s) will continue to consider all PIO cards (which were valid as on January 9, 2015) valid for exit from/entry into India till December 31, 2024. This extension of timeline is subject to the condition that if in the meantime, any deadline is notified by the International Civil Organization (ICAO) thereby making handwritten PIO cards invalid, then PIO cardholders may have to obtain appropriate visa from Indian Missions/ Posts.

3. Nevertheless, all PIO cardholders with valid PIO cards as on 09/01/2015 are advised to urgently apply for conversion of their PIO card to OCI card as per the guidelines being issued by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) from time to time.

January 3, 2024

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