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**PRESS RELEASE**

**12 April 2017**

The PIO Card scheme has been withdrawn vide Gazette Notification No.25024/9/2014F.I dated 09.01.2015. The extended deadline for conversion of PIO cards to OCI cards is approaching fast and will be over by **30th June, 2017**.

Conversion of PIO cards into OCI cards will be done free-of-charge (gratis) for applications submitted until **30 June 2017**. The conversion process for PIO card to OCI card is very simple and does not involve scrutiny or additional documentation except for the requirement of foreign passport and the existing PIO Card.

A separate online application form for submission of application for registration as OCI cardholder in lieu of PIO card is available in the website: **<http://passport.gov.in/oci/captchaActionPIO>**

All the existing PIO card holders are urged to apply urgently for conversion of their PIO cards to OCI cards.

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