



भारत का राजदूतावास
EMBASSY OF INDIA
पारामारिबो
PARAMARIBO

URGENT/IMPORTANT

No.SUR/415/4/2017

April 13, 2017

NOTICE

The Government of India, through an Act of Parliament, discontinued the PIO Card scheme w.e.f. January 9, 2015 and merged it with OCI Card scheme. Since then the deadline for conversion of PIO Cards to OCI Cards has been extended many times. The last such deadline was extended till June 30, 2017. The notice of the deadline has been uploaded in the Embassy's website and Notice Board of the Consular Section also.

2. The Embassy of India, Paramaribo, has till date issued 686 PIO Cards to persons of Indian origin in Suriname and countries of its jurisdiction i.e. Barbados, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Saint Lucia. So far, only 290 applications from PIO Card holders have been processed for conversion to OCI Cards. There are still 396 PIO Card holders who are yet to convert their PIO Cards to OCI Cards. **The Government of India has decided not to extend the deadline any further beyond June 30, 2017.**

3. All the persons of Indian origin holding PIO Cards, who are yet to apply for conversion to OCI Cards, are informed that the conversion process is not cumbersome and would not require extra scrutiny or additional documentation except for the requirement of copies of the foreign passport and the existing PIO Card. The conversion to OCI card does not involve any expenditure and is free of charge.

4. The Embassy takes this opportunity to clarify that after the expiry of the deadline of June 30, 2017, the PIO Card holders would have to apply for OCI Card as a fresh application and a fee of US\$ 283/- will be charged from them. The PIO card holders are requested to avail opportunity to convert their PIO cards to OCI cards free of cost before June 30, 2017.


(Sabya Sachi De),
Attache(Cons)