

Consulate General of India Hong Kong

EXTENSION OF TIMELINE FOR HANDWRITTEN PIO CARDS BEYOND 31.12.2024 AND UPTO 31.12.2025

The Government of India has extended the timeline for accepting **handwritten PIO cards as valid travel document along with valid foreign passport** at all Indian Immigration Check Posts(s) till **31.12.2025**.

2. Bureau of Immigration (BOI) will accept PIO cards as valid travel document till 31st December 2025 along with valid foreign passport and the Indian Immigration Check Posts(s) will continue to consider all PIO cards valid for **exit/entry into India till 31.12.2025**. This extension of timeline is subject to the condition that if in the meantime any deadline is notified by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) thereby making hand written PIO cards invalid, then PIO cardholders may have **to obtain appropriate visa** from Indian Missions/Posts.

3. PIO card holders may please note that **no further extension will be given** and they will have to get their PIO cards converted to OCI card by 31.12.2025, else they will have to get Visa from the Indian Missions / Posts abroad for travel to India and service of 'New Visa' from FRROs on E-FRRO online portal if they are already living in India.

4. Therefore, all PIO Card holders with valid PIO cards (as on 09.01.2015) in Hong Kong and Macau may apply for **conversion of PIO card to OCI card** as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs from time to time. Details of OCI application procedure can be seen at <u>www.cgihk.gov.in</u> and <u>http://ociservices.gov.in</u>.
