

# CENTRE EASES GUIDELINES FOR OCI CARDHOLDERS

Relevant for: Indian Polity | Topic: Indian Constitution - Features & Significant Provisions related to The Preamble, Union & its Territories and The Citizenship

The Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) will not be required to register for a fresh OCI card every time a new passport is issued in her/his name, except for those below 20 years of age, the Home Ministry said in a statement on Thursday.

The Ministry stated that presently the OCI card is required to be reissued each time a new passport is issued up to 20 years of age and once after completing 50 years of age “in view of biological changes in the face of the applicant”.

## ‘Reissue only once’

“With a view to facilitate the OCI cardholders, it has now been decided by the Government of India to dispense with this requirement. A person who has got registration as OCI cardholder prior to attaining the age of 20 years will have to get the OCI card reissued only once when a new passport is issued after his/her completing 20 years of age, so as to capture his/her facial features on attaining adulthood. If a person has obtained registration as OCI cardholder after attaining the age of 20 years, there will be no requirement of reissue of the OCI card,” the Ministry said.

It added that the details of the new passports obtained by the OCI cardholder can be uploaded online within three months of receiving the passport.

“It has been decided that he/she shall upload a copy of the new passport containing his/her photo and also a latest photo on the online OCI portal, each time a new passport is issued up to 20 years of age and once after completing 50 years of age,” it said.

The Ministry added that foreign spouses registered as OCIs will be required to upload a copy of the new passport and also a latest photo, along with a “declaration that their marriage is still subsisting, each time a new passport is issued”. The documents will have to be uploaded within three months of receipt of new passport. “The details will be updated on the system,” the Ministry stated.

A government official said a decision had been taken to simplify the registration for OCIs and the portal would be announced soon.

**END**

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