

**High Commission of India**  
**Canberra**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Temporary suspension of Registration for Overseas Indian Citizenship**

The Ministry of Home Affairs of the Government of India have decided to suspend on a temporary basis the receipt of applications for Overseas Indian Citizenship in Indian Embassies/High Commissions/Consulates General from Persons of Indian Origin. This decision, which comes into immediate effect, has been taken to streamline certain procedural requirements in the implementation of the scheme. The procedures under consideration are directed at simplification of the application form, the kind of documentation to be granted after acceptance of the application, the attendant benefits accruing to Overseas Indian Citizens and expanding the scope of the applicability of the Act to other countries.

The Ministry of Home Affairs is seized of the matter and is according it its utmost priority to enable Indian Embassies/High Commissions/Consulates General to recommence receiving application forms for due processing under the new procedures. As soon as the new procedures/rules become operational, these would be posted on the website of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India at [www.mha.nic.in](http://www.mha.nic.in) besides the website of High Commission of India, Canberra and the Consulate General of India, Sydney.

Insofar as the applications which have already been received in the High Commission of India, Canberra and the Consulate General of India, Sydney and which have been forwarded to the Government of India, these would continue to receive the attention of the Government of India and decisions on these applications would be communicated by the Ministry of Home Affairs as soon as the new procedures/rules are finalised.

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