

PRIORITY-I

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.301
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2018**

OVERSEAS CITIZENS OF INDIA

***301. SHRI DEVUSINH CHAUHAN:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of applications of the Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) are lying pending with the High Commissions of India abroad;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last four years, year-wise and the reasons therefor; and**
- (c) the details of OCI status given to the applicants during the said period?**

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)**

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.301 REGARDING “OVERSEAS
CITIZENS OF INDIA” FOR ANSWER ON 08.08.2018**

(a) Yes, there are some Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card applications pending with some of our Embassies/High Commissions/Consulates abroad, while most of our Missions/Posts have no pending applications of OCI card applicants. The number of pending applications at some of our Missions/Posts issuing large number of OCI cards have reduced significantly during the last few years.

(b) The number of OCI card applications pending with our Embassies/High Commissions/Consulates abroad, year-wise, for the last four years are given in the following table:

Year	Number of normal OCI card applications pending	Number of spouse-based OCI card applications pending
2014	1321	0
2015	436	35
2016	375	66
2017	472	475

The OCI card applications are pending at our Embassies/High commissions/Consulates for various reasons, including those that require action at the end of the applicants. Most of the OCI card applications are pending on account of incomplete documentation or non-submission of certain mandatory documents by the OCI card applicants. Our Embassies/ High Commissions/ Consulates abroad continue to follow up with the applicants, to seek necessary documents/information for clearing the pendency. However, in several instances, the applicants could not be contacted or the applicants do not contact the respective Embassy/ High Commission/ Consulate for long periods thus resulting in pendency. Some of the applications are pending on grounds of technical rejection. The pendency in case of spouse-based OCI card applications is mainly because of non furnishing of necessary documents by the applicants, such as apostilled Marriage Certificate, passport details and native details

of the foreign spouse. Applications which are put on hold because of pending security clearances by the security agencies, are also included in the table above.

(c) The year-wise details of OCI cards issued during the last four years are given in the following table:

Year	Number of OCI Cards issued	Number of OCI Cards issued in-lieu of PIO cards
2014	220859	0
2015	329725	60830
2016	410150	156841
2017	399915	114590
