

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 241**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER, 2025/ AGRAHAYANA 11, 1947  
(SAKA)**

**PROCEDURE FOR OCI CARDS**

**241. SHRI CAPTAIN VIRIATO FERNANDES:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

**(a) whether the Government has an established procedure for Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) cardholders who have relinquished foreign citizenship and now seek to regain Indian citizenship;**

**(b) if so, the eligibility criteria, required documentation, and application process applicable in such cases;**

**(c) whether there is a clearly defined mandatory waiting period between date of surrendering foreign citizenship and applying for re-acquisition of Indian citizenship and if so, the details of duration;**

**(d) whether the Government considers issuing an interim residency permit to such individuals during transition period before their application for Indian citizenship is processed;**

**(e) the average timeline for processing such applications and whether any fast-track mechanism exists for individuals with urgent personal or professional grounds; and**

**(f) whether there are procedural delays or inconsistencies in verifying foreign citizenship relinquishment for former Indian citizens seeking re-naturalisation, if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI BANDI SANJAY KUMAR)**

**(a) to (f):**

**Acquisitions and determination of citizenship of India is governed by the Citizenship Act, 1955 and rules made there under called The Citizenship Rules, 2009. For the Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) cardholder, there is provision under Section 5(1) (g) for acquisition of citizenship by registration. Further, for acquiring Indian citizenship a person should not be illegal migrant which has been defined under Section 2(1)(b)(i)(ii) of the Citizenship Act, 1955.**

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