

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5479
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2012
ISSUE OF OCI CARDS
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is issuing Overseas Citizen of India Cards (OCI) to people of Indian origin;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the salient features of the OCI card;
- (d) the number of applications for OCI cards that have been received and the number of OCI cards released so far, country-wise;
- (e) whether the complaints pertaining to delay in issue of OCI cards have been received by the Government; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

- (a) Yes Madam.
- (b) As on 30th April, 2012 a total number of 10,77,298 persons of Indian origin have been registered as Overseas Citizens of India.
- (c) Salient features are given in Annexure- 'A'.
- (d) Country-wise list are given in Annexure – 'BB'.
- (e) & (f) The OCI Scheme envisages the issue of OCI documents within a period of 30 days. However most of our Missions & Posts, especially in USA, UK and Canada have been unable to cope with the pressure of work and there have been delays. It is believed that some of these Missions and Posts could take upto three months for issue of such documents. This Ministry has been assisting such Missions and Posts from time to time by enabling them hire local staff to clear the backlog.