

F.No. 26011/02/2015-IC-I  
Government of India  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
Foreigners Division  
(IC-I Section)

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NDCC-II Building, (Opposite Jantar Mantar),  
Jai Singh Road, New Delhi  
Dated : 21<sup>st</sup> December 2015

**Circular**

**Subject: Suggestions on draft amendment to the Citizenship Act, 1955.**

In order to facilitate acquisition of Indian Citizenship by members of minority communities from Bangladesh and Pakistan who were compelled to seek shelter in India due to religious persecution, it is proposal to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955 by inserting the following proviso in clause (b) of sub-section (1) of Section 2 of the Act:

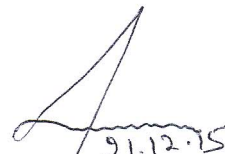
*“Provided that a person belonging to minority community in Bangladesh and Pakistan, namely, Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians, who has been exempted by the Central Government from rule 3 of the Passport (Entry into India) Rules, 1950 and from the application of provisions of the Foreigners Act, 1946 and the orders made thereunder, shall not be treated as illegal migrant for the purposes of this Act.”*

Further, to enable the Government to effectively prevent the violations of the provisions of section 7B of the Act by Overseas Citizens of India (OCI Cardholder), the following clause (ea) in section 7D of the Act will be inserted after the existing clause (e):

*“(ea) the Overseas Citizen of India Cardholder has violated the provisions of section 7B of this Act or any notification issued under this section; or”*

2. The suggestion/comments on the proposed amendment from the public and other stakeholders are solicited within one month and the same may be sent to the undersigned (address: Ministry of Home Affairs, Foreigners Division, IC-Section, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, NDCC-II Building, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi-110001). The suggestion may also be sent on e-mail: [gopal.jha67@nic.in](mailto:gopal.jha67@nic.in) or may be faxed (at 011-23438037).

3. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

  
21.12.15  
(Gopal Jha)

Under Secretary to the Government of India  
Tel:011-2343-8048