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Office of the Commissioner
for N.R.I. Affairs
(Cabinet Minister Rank)
GOVERNMENT OF GOA



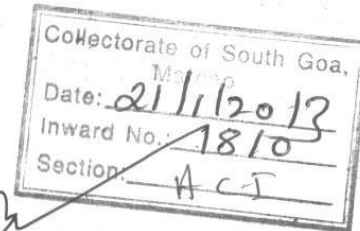
No.Comm/NRI/324/12-13/03

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Date:- 03/01/2013

To,

- 1) The Collector and District Magistrate,
North Goa,
Panaji, Goa.
- 2) The Collector and District Magistrate,
South Goa,
Margao, Goa.



Sub :- OCI Scheme - Attestation of documents regarding.

Sir,

Since December 2005, the Government of India has introduced "**Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) Scheme**" to persons of Indian origin who have migrated from India and acquired citizenship of foreign countries other than Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Such persons can submit their OCI applications to the Indian Missions abroad duly supported by documentary evidence of their Indian origin established through their birth certificate in proof of having been born in India. However, if they are born abroad, they can rely upon the Indian origin of their parents or grand parents.

The Indian Missions abroad insist upon the original birth certificates duly attested by the District Magistrate / Additional District Magistrate. They do not accept copies of notarized birth certificates even though the signature of Advocate / Notary is attested by the District Magistrate / Additional District Magistrate.

The Indian Missions have also been empowered by the Ministry of Home Affairs to accept Baptism Certificate issued before October 1955 as proof of Indian origin in lieu of birth certificate. However, if such Baptism Certificate is duplicate issued at a later date, the same needs to be certified by the concerned District Magistrate for authenticity.

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The matter has been considered by the Government and accordingly it has been decided that the Collectors / District Magistrates shall attest the signature of the Sub Registrar / Registrar of Births and Deaths issuing the original birth certificates.

The Government has also decided that the Collectors / District Magistrates shall attest the Baptism certificates issued by the church authorities in Goa before October 1955, as proof of Indian origin in lieu of Birth Certificates.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,



(B. Vijayan)
Chief Secretary