

FAQs on Renunciation/Surrendering of Indian Citizenship

Q. What is a Renunciation/Surrender Certificate?

A: A Renunciation/Surrender Certificate is issued to applicants who renounce Indian nationality and surrender their passport at Consulate after acquiring foreign nationality.

Q. How to apply for Renunciation/Surrender of Indian Citizenship Certificate?

A: Applicant should first fill online surrender application on <https://embassy.passportindia.gov.in>. This will generate the Application Reference Number (ARN) and a PDF file. The print-out of the saved PDF file of online surrender application with supporting documents are to be submitted at the BLS. Please note that Postal applications may take longer to process at BLS due to the rejection of incomplete applications. Therefore, for faster processing, it is preferable to submit Surrender applications at BLS centres as walk-ins or by appointment. The Consulate has not appointed or authorized any other agency or individual agent to render any passport service on behalf of Consulate **other than M/S BLS International. Link for BLS website - <https://www.blsindia-canada.com/vancouver-jurisdiction/index.php>**

Q. What is the processing time?

A. If the applications are complete in all respects, the process time would be 4-6 weeks from the date of receipt of such applications at the Consulate.

Q. What is the difference between Surrender Certificate & Renunciation Certificate?

A. Renunciation is applicable for those applicants who have acquired foreign nationality on or after 01 June 2010. Surrender is applicable to those who acquired foreign nationality before 01 June 2010. Once you acquire foreign citizenship you have to surrender your last held Indian passport to Indian Consulate for

cancellation. Consulate will cancel it and return to you along with a **Renunciation/Surrender Certificate** issued by Consulate.

Q. What should I do if I have lost/misplaced my last Indian Passport?

A. If you have acquired citizenship before 01 June 2010 and lost your last held Indian passport, please email to attest.vancouver@mea.gov.in for further guidance. If you have acquired foreign citizenship on or after 01 June, 2010, please email to surrender.vancouver@mea.gov.in for further guidance.

Q. Can I hold my Indian passport even after acquiring Foreign Citizenship?

A. The Indian Citizenship Act does **NOT allow dual citizenship**. Holding an Indian passport **or** acquiring an Indian Passport **or Traveling** on an Indian passport after acquisition of foreign citizenship constitutes a cognizable offense under the Indian Passport Act and attracts penalties and imprisonment or both.

Q. Documents required submitting for Renunciation/Surrender of Indian Citizenship Certificate?

A: Please see the checklist [link](#).

Q: My passport has expired; can I get Renunciation/Surrender Certificate for the same?

A: Yes, expired passports too can be presented for surrender. Renunciation/Surrender Certificate will not be issued for Impounded, Revoked, Suspended, and Cancelled (against Re-issue) passports.

Q. Is it necessary to carry the Certificate of Renunciation of Indian Citizenship during travel to India?

A. No, it is not necessary for travelers to carry Certificate of Renunciation of Indian Citizenship during their travel to India. It is advisable that surrender certificate and canceled Indian Passports be kept safely for future reference if any.

Q. I have received my Renunciation Certificate and there is an error in passport No. / the spelling of my name/father's name. What should I do?

A. Please contact Consulate through email at surrender.vancouver@mea.gov.in regarding any correction/printing mistake etc. Consular officer will check your document and inform you about next course of action.

Q. Can I apply for Renunciation/ surrender and visa together?

A. Yes

Q. Can I apply for OCI and renunciation/ Surrender together?

A. No. The Renunciation or surrender certificate is mandatory for OCI applications.

Q. Is citizenship certificate necessary for the renunciation?

A. Yes, it is issued by the foreign government in the process of obtaining foreign passport.

Note: For any further Query/Doubts on Renunciation please contact the Consulate through email surrender.vancouver@mea.gov.in.
