1. In the following cases, Indian citizens are required to apply for re-issuance of their passports:-

(i). **HANDWRITTEN PASSPORTS**

Beginning November 2015, all persons are required to use only Machine Readable Passport or MPRs. Visa or entry into any country will be denied to a person travelling on a non-Machine Readable Passport. This requirement has been mandated by the **International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)** which is phasing out of all non-Machine Readable Passports (MRPs) by 24th November, 2015.

Since 2001, India has been issuing Machine Readable Passport. However, passports issued before 2001 fall in the category of non-MRPs. As such, all handwritten passports, including those with pasted photographs are considered non-MRPs.

All Indian nationals holding such passports with validity beyond the 24th November, 2015 are advised to apply for re-issuance of their passports well before November, 2015. This will help you avoid any inconvenience in obtaining valid visa or in your international travel.

(ii) **PASSPORTS VALID FOR LESS THAN SIX MONTHS**

Indian nationals holding Passports with an expiry of six months or less should immediately renew their passports. Please check passports of minors as such passports have a shorter validity period (of only 5 years). The universal practice in vogue now is; "Once your passport crosses the nine-year mark, it is time to get new passport".

(iii) **EXHAUSTION OF VISA PAGES**

Some countries do not accept passports which may have fewer than two pages remaining. Check your passport to ensure that you have enough visa pages. Note that there is no provision of additional booklets/pages. In case your passport does not have enough pages, you are required to apply for reissuance of your passport. Frequent travellers can opt for a “jumbo” passport containing 64 pages by paying an additional charge.