GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:144 ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003 INSPETION OF PASSPORT OFFICES IN BIHAR KANTI SINGH;RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any inspection on the working of Passport Offices in Bihar has been carried out during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of pending applications for issue of passport as on date; and

(d) the efforts made to clear the pending applications?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA)

(a) & (b) Several inspections on the working of Passport Office, Patna havebeen carried out by the senior officers in the Ministry/Government during the last three years, the details are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The number of applications pending after receipt of clear police report as on 27th November, 2003 is 5414 which is not on the high side.

(d) All efforts are made to clear pending applications including by working on weekends and holidays.

STATEMENT REFERED TO PARA (a) to (b) TO THE ANSWER QOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 144 TO E ANSWERED ON 03.12.2003 REGARDING INSPECTION OF PASSPORT OFFICES IN BIHAR

(i) Shri A.K. Sharma, Director(PV) on 5-6 September, 2001.

(ii) Shri S.R. Tayal, JS(CPV) on 26 & 27 February, 2002.

(iii) Shri S.N. Nagar, PRO(PG) on 6 to 13 June, 2002.

(iv) Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs on 9th December, 2002.

(v) Shri S.K. Srivastava, Deputy Secretary(Hindi) on 10 to 14 October, 2003.