

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:836
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2006
DELIVERY OF PASSPORTS
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of External Affairs have requisitioned the services of Speed Post Offices for the speedy disposal of passports;
- (b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the services and to earn more revenue to the postal department in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b) In collaboration with Ministry of External Affairs, the Speed Post Passport Service is available from 218 Speed Post Centres/Post Offices. These offices perform the following functions:

1. Sale of passport application forms
2. Acceptance of completed passport application forms.
3. Checking the completed applications with reference to the prescribed check list.
4. Forwarding the applications to passport office.
5. Delivery of passport to applicants, once passport office has issued them.

(c) The facility of sending applications for passports through Speed Post Centres/Post Offices is advertised through newspapers, pamphlets, brochures etc. As a result, the revenue earned by Department of Posts has shown an increase over the years, as shown below:

October 2001 - March 2002 : Rs. 70,92,954
April 2002 - March 2003 : Rs. 1,25,28,140
April 2003 - March 2004 : Rs. 1,34,95,540
April 2004 - March 2005 : Rs. 1,68,33,260
April 2005 - December 2005 : Rs. 1,52,71,520