

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1127

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2006

DELAY IN PASSPORT ISSUANCE RENEWAL

Chavda Shri Harisinh Pratapsinh;Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal;Singh Deo Smt. Sangeeta Kumari;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that there is delay in issuance of fresh passports, renewal of old ones, change in address etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether complaints have been received from various States in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, year-wise;
- (e) whether action has been initiated against those found guilty;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a&b) A few instances of delay in issuance of fresh passports, renewal of old ones and change in address have come to the notice of the Government. These delays are mainly on account of delayed receipt of Police Verification Reports/adverse Police Report or submission of false/incomplete information by the applicant and due to shortage in supply of blank passport booklets by India Security Press, Nasik.

(c) No, Sir. No such complaints have been received from the State Governments.

(d,e&f) Does not arise.

(g) The Government has been taking a number of steps for speedier issuance of passports and related services to the public. State Governments have been requested to expedite Police Verification reports and avoid submission of incomplete reports. Police Verification process has been done away in cases of renewal/reissue, for minors if one of the parents holds valid passport, senior citizens, if any one of their adult children, is holding a valid passport, Government servants who submit proper No Objection Certificate from their respective employers, Diplomatic and Official passport holders with valid Surrender Certificates. As for shortage of blank passport booklets, we had taken up the matter with India Security Press, Nasik and the supply position has improved since January 2006.