

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1213
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2006
TATKAL SCHEME
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the average number of applications being received daily through various modes in the District Passports Cells and Passport Application Collection Centres in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the average number of days taken for the issue of passports;
- (c) the special facilities, if any, provided for those who apply for passports under the Tatkal Scheme; and
- (d) the measures undertaken for speedy issuance of passports?

Answer

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

- (a) The average number of applications being received daily through the District Passport Cells and Passport Application Collection Centres in Tamil Nadu is approximately 375.
- (b) The average number of days taken for the issue of passports varies from 80 to 90 days.
- (c) Under the Tatkal Scheme, passports for first time applicants are despatched on the 5th working day and on the 3rd working day for re-issue cases. There is also a separate counter for urgently processing passport applications under this scheme.
- (d) Several measures have been taken for speedy issuance of Passports. These include:
 - (i) grant across the counter to avoid any objections in the future
 - (ii) on-line registration for interested applicants
 - (iii) pendency clearance drive from time to time to clear the pending applications and
 - (iv) requesting State authorities for early and timely despatch of police verification reports, which are required for issuance of passports.