

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3193
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2005
OUTSOURCING AND PRIVATISING OF PASSPORT WORK
Karunakaran Shri P.;Veerendra Kumar Shri M.P.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to outsource and privatise passport work in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has received any representation from the all India Passport Employees Association in this regard ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there is unrest among staff working in various Passport Offices in the country and they have resorted to strike etc. on this issue; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) & (d) The All India Passport Employees Association has been submitting representations from time to time on various issues pertaining to service matters.
- (e) Any unrest among staff members on this issue is uncalled for since Government has taken no decision to outsource or privatize passport issuance work. The All India Passport Employees Association resorted to strike in December, 2004 on this issue which was hence unjustified and the strike was also called off by them after about a week.
- (f) Some of the legitimate issues pertaining to the service matters have already been resolved. Some other issues require the approval of other authorities in the Government of India. These issues are regularly followed up with the concerned authorities.