

Seventeenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Need to sanction a passport Office/Passport Seva Kendra for Kasaragod district, Kerala.

**SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN (KASARAGOD):** My constituency, Kasaragod, has NRI population in Kerala and a sizeable number of seafarers who regularly travel across the globe for work in merchant ships. They need the service of a Passport Seva Kendra on regular basis. But the district does not have a full-fledged Passport Seva Kendra. The nearest Passport Seva Kendra is at Payyanur in Kannur District which is 100 kms away from the borders of Kasaragod district. A full-fledged passport office in Kasaragod district is a long pending demand of the expatriates and the seafarers. A Passport Seva Kendra in the district with sufficient facilities has now become the need of the hour to cater to the ever-increasing users' demands.

Further, I propose that the Uppala Post Office at Manjeshwar may be used as Post Office Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK). Hence, I request the Government of India to sanction a passport office for Kasaragod district or, at least, to provide a Passport Seva Kendra for the district preferably at Manjeshwar.