

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1565
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2000
PENDING PASSPORT APPLICATIONS
ASHOK ARGAL;DUKHA BHAGAT;SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAI SI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of applications pending in different passport offices as on July 31, 2000, passport office-wise;
- (b) the total number of passports issued by different passport offices during the last three years, passport office-wise, year-wise;
- (c) the average time taken in issuing them;
- (d) the time by which pending applications are likely to be cleared;
- (e) whether Passport Adalats were started on experimental basis at Hyderabad Passport Office last year;
- (f) if so, the success or other of these Adalats;
- (g) whether all the Passport Offices have started such Adalats;
- (h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (i) the total such adalats held by different passport officers during the last one year and the number of cases solved by them; and
- (j) the further steps being taken by the Government to simplify procedure in regard to issuance of passport?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMNAR PANJA)

- (a) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House at Annexure I
 - (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House at Annexure II
 - (c) The normal time taken for issue of a passport is 35 days from the date of receipt of the application. However, due to various reasons such as delay in receipt of police verification reports and incomplete information from applicants, the time taken for issue of passports has exceeded 35 days in some Passport Offices.
 - (d) The pendency figure of each office is being closely monitored by this Ministry on the basis of a weekly arrear statement and those offices which have pendencies are being directed to clear them within the shortest possible time.
 - (e) A Passport Adalat was held by Passport Office, Hyderabad in March 1999, the first of its kind in the country.
 - (f),(g) So far, 15 Passport Offices have conducted such Passport Adalats. According to the feedback from the public and the press coverage, these Passport Adalats were very successful and led to redressal of grievances on the spot in a large number of cases.
 - (h) A Statement is laid on the table on the House at Annexure III
- Most of the offices where such Adalats have not been held so far are smaller offices where the pendency has been negligible and the need for holding Adalats has not been felt.
- (i) A total of 35 such Adalats were held by the Passport Offices during the last one year and 2063 cases were resolved during these Adalats..
 - (j) The simplification and streamlining of procedures for issue of passports is an on going process. Among the measures taken to expedite processing of passport applications are : computerisation of processing procedures, provision for dispatch of passport by speedpost, introduction of machine writing of passports and expediting police verification reports with the RPOs holding regular consultations with the local police authorities in their respective areas.

Annexure - I

Applications pending in different Passport Offices as on 21st July 2000

Sl No. Name of RPO/PO Pending Cases

1. Ahmedabad - 2390
2. Bangalore - -
3. Bareilly - 386
4. Bhopal - 185
5. Bhubneshwar - -
6. Calcutta - 2565
7. Chandigarh - -
8. Chennai - -
9. Cochin - 1
10. Delhi - 4654
11. Ghaziabad - -
12. Guwahati - 32
13. Hyderabad - -
14. Jaipur - 1011
15. Jalandhar - 306
16. Jammu - 40
17. Kozhikode - 310
18. Lucknow - 3326
19. Mumbai - 6966
20. Nagpur - -
21. Panaji - 261
22. Patna - 500
23. Pune - 655
24. Srinagar - 437
25. Thane - 203
26. Trichy - 2235
27. Trivandrum - 27
28. Vishakhapatnam - 441

Total : 26931

An Application is considered pending only when it is accurately completed without any objection where a police clearance has been received but on which a passport has not been issued by a Passport Office within five weeks of the application being filed.

Annexure II

Passports issued during 1997, 1998 & 1999

	1997	1998	1999
1. Ahmedabad	143866	153773	179094
2. Bangalore	90637	98365	131472
3. Bareilly	44030	44257	55944
4. Bhopal	25607	32408	38808
5. Bhubneshwar	8808	11075	14441
6. Calcutta	72869	72940	86099
7. Chandigarh	96599	101237	122326
8. Chennai	148411	134580	174014

9. Cochin	104522	110022	117057
10. Delhi	154652	159584	168171
11. Ghaziabad	Passsport Office not opened	9741	20103
12. Guwahati	11251	12859	14001
13. Hyderabad	236222	195441	212141
14. Jaipur	58722	60078	73292
15. Jalandhar	91627	98291	120549
16. Jammu	9600	6695	7595
17. Kozhikode	146181	134133	164771
18. Lucknow	111291	101646	168171
19. Mumbai	271556	308091	274838
20. Nagpur	14282	17683	18303
21. Panaji	17522	18384	19197
22. Patna	53942	59267	54395
23. Pune	Passport Office not opened	1894	17759
24. Srinagar	800	5417	8866
25. Thane	7323	9687	15522
26. Trichy	188283	134775	163089
27. Trivandrum	88409	82838	89238
28. Vishakhapatnam	29400	47625	50857

Total : 22,26,412 22,22,786 25,80,113

Annexure-III

Details of Passport Adalats held by Passport Offices

Name of PO/RPO	No. of Adalat	Date on which Adalats were held	Passport
1. Ahmedabad	1	8.9.99	
2. Bangalore	8	once a month from 7/99 to 12/99, 19-20/2/2000 and 27.5.2000	
3. Calcutta	1	26.3.99	
4. Chandigarh	1	24.6.2000	
5. Chennai	1	17.2.2000	
6. Cochin	1	20.8.99	
7. Delhi	1	11.3.2000	
8. Ghaziabad	1	29.11.99	
9. Hyderabad	1	24.3.99 & 29.3.2000	
10. Jaipur	1	7.3.2000	
11. Jalandhar	1	7.8.99	
12. Kozhikode	7	14.8.99, 10.2.2000, 22.3.2000, 28.3.2000, 13.4.2000, 4.5.2000 & 24.5.2000	
13. Mumbai	1	21.8.99	
14. Srinagar	8	5-7/12/99, 8-12/12/99, 8-15/12/99, 9-16/12/99, 11-18/12/99, 20-28/12/99, 22-29/12/99 and 29-31/12/99	
15. Trivandrum	2	18.8.99 and 17.2.2000	

