

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2501

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2008

IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS AT AIRPORTS

Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal;Thummar Shri Virjibhai

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the passengers are facing lot of difficulties due to inordinate delay in immigration clearance at airports in metropolitan cities;and

(b) if so,the steps taken by the Government to ensure smooth and speedy immigration clearance at these airports facilitating passenger convenience?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a): At the international airports in metropolitan cities,the immigration authorities clear passengers,with due expedition,as per the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) guidelines.

(b): The immigration system at major international airports has been modernized with the upgradation of the computer systems, implementation of Immigration Control Software (ICS), installation of Passport Reading Machines (PRMs) and Questionable Document Examiner (QDX) Machines, etc.,which has considerably improved the immigration services at the international airports. Furthermore,the Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) has recently been implemented at six international airports,viz. Delhi,Mumbai,Chennai,Kolkata,Hyderabad and Bangalore,which,besides enhancing the security screening of passengers,would also facilitate passengers by further reducing immigration clearance time.