

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:355
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2010
OPENING OF NEW PASSPORT OFFICES
Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria for identifying places to set up new passport offices/passport service centres in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has received any proposals to open new passport offices/passport service centres in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the places identified for this purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

- (a) The criteria for identifying places to set up new passport office/passport service centers in the country is on the basis of number of passport applications received from the respective regions.
- (b) to (c) Yes. Government has embarked on Passport Seva Project (PSP) to comprehensively transform Passport Service Delivery under the network of existing Passport Offices. Under the Project's existing scope, 77 Passport Seva Kendras (PSK) are going to be established across the country. A list of the proposed PSKs is attached.