

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4113  
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010  
ISSUE OF PASSPORT TO CRIMINALS  
Gorakhnath Shri

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether passports are issued to the persons/public representatives categorized as criminals;
- (b) if so, the details of the process such as police verification, etc. followed in this regard;
- (c) if not, whether passports have been issued to such persons absconding in the country including in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and
- (e) the names of the passport offices from where these passports have been issued and the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

- (a): As per the Passports Act, no passport is issued to a person if it comes to the notice of Passport Authority that a criminal case is pending in a court of law against that person. Passport is also not issued if a person is convicted in the last five years with imprisonment upto two years and above. However, Gazette Notification 570(E) dated 25th August 1993 permits issue of a passport valid for one year to a person against whom a criminal case is pending if he produces the permission of the concerned court for departure from India.
- (b): Police verification is required in all fresh passport cases. In cases of re-issue of passport, police verification is done only where any adverse information is detected in the system.
- (c): Passports have not been issued to absconding persons.
- (d) & (e): Not applicable.