

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3582
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010
PASSPORT OFFICE IN GUJARAT
Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has sanctioned two more Regional Passport Offices for Gujarat to be established at Rajkot and Vadodara respectively in 2009;
- (b) if so, the action taken thereon in this direction and the details of any official notification which has been issued so far for the purpose;
- (c) whether both the offices have become functional with deployment of the staff and officers; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor and the difficulties being faced in finding office space at both the places?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) & (b) The Government has no plan to open two more Regional Passport Offices for Gujarat at Rajkot and Vadodara. However, the Government has launched Passport Seva Project and has made notification in this respect in the Gazette of India on May 3, 2010. Under the Project, it is proposed to set up 5 (five) Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) in the state of Gujarat out of which 2 (two) will be in Ahmedabad and one each in Vadodara, Rajkot and Surat. The PSKs in Rajkot and Vadodara will function under the operational control of Regional Passport Office, Ahmedabad. The PSKs in Gujarat are expected to be operational during the year 2011.

(c) No.

(d) The Government does not anticipate any difficulties in operationalisation of the PSKs in Gujarat.