

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5679
ANSWERED ON:07.09.2011
CLEARANCE FOR ISSUE OF PASSPORTS
Beg Shri Mirza Mehboob

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of citizens, State-wise put in prior approval category i.e. to whom passport cannot be issued without approval of his Ministry;
- (b) the number of such applicants who have been cleared by State CID for passport issuance but to whom passport could not be issued by respective passport offices as PAC was not cleared by his Ministry during the last three years;
- (c) the number of persons who could not perform Haj Pilgrimage because of non-clearance of PAC despite clearance by the State CID;
- (d) the number of persons who are cleared by his Ministry during the last one year;
- (e) whether there is any system in place to review PAC lists;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether the Government considers to introduce such a system in future; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

- (a) There are about 20,000 individuals on the List of Prior Approval Category (PAC). This is a centralised list and not maintained State-wise.
- (b) Information is being collected.
- (c) Information is being collected.
- (d) 96 cases were deleted from the List of PAC during the last one year.
- (e) to (g) Yes. An exercise to review the cases prior to 1990 was initiated in 2008. Since then over one thousand cases have been deleted from the List until now. This review process is continuing in consultation with all concerned authorities.