

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4315
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2012
PASSPORT SEVA KENDRAS
Karunakaran Shri P.;Singh Shri Ravneet

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria adopted to decide the location and the city in which a Passport Seva Kendra (PSK) should be established;
- (b) whether proper criteria have not been laid down for the location of PSKs; and
- (c) if so, the reasons thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) In order to meet growing demand of passports and to improve the efficiency of passport issuance system, the Government had appointed the National Institute of Smart Governance (NISG), Hyderabad – a Government agency, as Consultant in 2006 to conduct an independent study of the system. The NISG, after a comprehensive study, submitted a detailed project report in February 2007 and recommended launch of Passport Seva Project(PSP) in Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode, envisaging inter alia setting up of 77 Passport Seva Kendras across the country, based on the number of passport applications received from various districts under each passport office. The PSP was approved by the Union Cabinet in September, 2007. A list of 77 PSKs is enclosed at ANNEXURE.