

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5332
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2012
ISSUE OF VISA AND PASSPORTS TO INDIANS
Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether visa and passports are not being issued to Indians living abroad for years, to come back to India by the concerned Indian Embassies and High Commissions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of Indians as on date, who have applied for visa and passports but have not been issued and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to issue visa and passports to the affected Indians expeditiously and to provide necessary facilities so that they can return to India?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Indian citizens living abroad do not require visa to visit India. However, persons of Indian origin who hold foreign nationalities require visa or OCI/PIO card to visit India. In cases of foreign nationals of Indian origin, Visa/OCI/PIO cards are issued to them expeditiously subject to no adverse information found in the system. In the case of Indian citizens who have lost their passports, duplicate passports are issued on verification of their particulars from the Passport and Related Information Data Exchange (PRIDE) or from concerned authorities in India.