

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1172  
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012  
VACANT POSTS IN PASSPORT OFFICE  
Sampath Shri Anirudhan

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

- (a) whether a number of vacancies exist in different regional passport offices in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, RPO-wise and category-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to fill up these vacancies at the earliest; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) Yes. As on today, the sanctioned cadre strength of Central Passport Organization (Passport Offices) in all Groups is 2697. The details of category-wise vacancies is as under :

No. of vacancies in the various Grades in the Central Passport Organization

S.No. Designation No. of vacancies

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1 Deputy Passport Officer    | 40  |
| 2 Assistant Passport Officer | 33  |
| 3 Passport Granting Officer  | 76  |
| 4 Superintendent             | 10  |
| 5 Assistant                  | 92  |
| 6 UDC                        | 270 |
| 7 LDC                        | 41  |
| 8 UDC (Hindi)                | 04  |
| 9 Stenographer               | 07  |
| 10 Hindi Translator          | 09  |
| Total                        | 582 |

(c) & (d) The Government is taking steps to fill up the existing vacancies at the Passport Offices by deputation, promotion and through Staff Selection Commission, fast-track promotion and deputation. During the last two years, 14 Departmental Promotion Committee meetings were held leading to 1341 fast track promotions which constitutes 64% of the entire workforce of Passport Offices in India. The Central Passport Organisation cadre has been restructured by creation of new level of posts of Passport Granting Officers by upgrading 320 posts. The Ministry has invited applications from suitable candidates to fill up the vacant deputation posts of Deputy Passport Officer and Assistant Passport Officer. An indent to fill up vacant post of Lower Division Clerks has already been placed with the Staff Selection Commission. Some of them have already joined the Passport Offices and for the rest vacant posts, a reminder has been sent to the Commission. Pending filling up of vacancies on regular basis, the Ministry has engaged 311 Data Entry Operators in the Passport Offices in place of vacant non-gazetted posts.