

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1201  
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2012  
INCREASE IN PASSPORT CHARGES  
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

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

- (a) whether there is a proposal to increase charges of passport application forms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether people of Nashik are reportedly facing difficulties in obtaining passport forms and passport;
- (d) if so, the steps taken in this regard along with the number of passport applications pending with passport office at Nashik as on date;
- (e) the average time taken to issue a passport after submitting the applications;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to reduce this time period further; and
- (g) 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) No, there is no proposal to increase charges of passport application forms. A passport application form is priced at Rs.10/- only.

(c) No. A new Passport Seva Kendra (PSK) was set up in Nashik on 20th March 2012 for the betterment of passport services in Nashik and adjoining areas. After setting up of Passport Seva Kendra, the applicants are required to register the passport applications online and visit the PSK on the date and time of appointment with all relevant documents. Besides, the passport form is also downloadable from the web portal [www.passportindia.gov.in](http://www.passportindia.gov.in). Out of 425 appointments (including 75 for Tatkal) per day available for PSK, Nashik, applicants varying between 280 and 285 visit PSK, Nashik daily to submit their applications for different passport related services.

(d) PSK, Nashik operates as an extension of Passport Office, Thane to accept passport applications from the residents of Nashik, Dhule, Nandurbar and Jalgaon. The pendency of passport applications with RPO, Thane is minimal on account of either non availability of passport forms or online appointments.

(e) Average time taken to issue a passport is 7 days from the date of receipt of clear police report.

(f) & (g) Under the Passport Seva Project, the Government is committed to providing more efficient and timely delivery of passport services to citizens. The Project has been fully operationalised all over India.