

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1086
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009
REGIONAL PASSPORT OFFICES IN INDIA
Dubey Shri Nishikant

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Regional Passport Offices (RPOs) set up in the country during each of last three years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the existing number of RPOs are adequate to provide satisfactory service to the public in the country;
- (c) if not, whether Government propose to set up more RPOs in the country including Jharkhand; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) Currently, there are 37 Passport Offices all over India. Information relating to Passport Offices opened during the last three years State-wise is as under:

Year Passport Office (State-wise)

2007 (1) Madurai (Tamilnadu)
(2) Raipur (Chhatisgarh)

2008 (1) Amritsar (Punjab)
(2) Coimbatore (Tamilnadu)
(3) Dehradun (Uttrakhand)

2009 Nil

(b) to (d) Satisfactory passport service is currently available through these 37 Passport Offices. There is no proposal to open new Regional Passport Offices in view of the implementation of the Passport Seva Project. However, it envisages the opening of 77 Passport Seva Kendras all over the country. Under the Passport Seva Project, one Passport Seva Kendra is proposed to be opened in Ranchi.