

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5618
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
DELAY IN PASSPORT VERIFICATION
Rama Devi Smt. ;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are reports of inordinate delay by the police officials in the verification process for issuance of passports in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the role of policemen has been inquired into in such delays;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the action taken by the police department against the erring officials and the measures taken by the Government to streamline the said procedure to avoid delay in issuance of passports?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) to (d): No reports of inordinate delay by the police officials in the verification process for issuance of passports in the country has been received. However, the time taken for Police Verification process ranges from average of 13 days for Andhra Pradesh to average of 217 days for Tripura. Only 36% of Police Verification reports are received, country wide, within the desired service level of 21 days. As Police Verification is critical to issuance of passports, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has instructed the Passport Officers to keep in touch with the concerned police officials to minimize delays in police verification of passport applications. The MEA has raised this matter at the State Chief Secretary level also to expedite passport issuance. During interactions of senior officers of the Ministry with DGPs /Police Commissioners, the urgency in police verification is impressed upon.