

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6539
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2015
PASSPORT ISSUANCE
Baig Shri Muzaffar Hussain

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of applications pending for issuance of passport as on date in the State of Jammu and Kashmir on the ground that a relative of the applicant was a militant at some point of time even though now surrendered or has died;
- (b) whether any rules/norms exist in dealing with such cases and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for early issuance of passports in such cases?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (c) No such details are centrally maintained by the Government. However, in terms of Section 5(2) of the Passports Act, 1967, the passports are issued on the basis of clear/recommendatory police verification report. In respect of passport applicants from J&K, the antecedents of applicants are verified by the local police authorities as well as by other security agencies, who take into account various aspects including any connection with militant groups. Refusal of passport to an applicant by the Passport Issuing Authority may be made only in terms of the relevant provisions of the Passports Act, 1967.