

Title: Opening of a second Regional Passport Office at Dimapur.

SHRI K.A. SANGTAM (NAGALAND): The North-East region consists of seven states, which includes Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland. So far there is only one Regional Passport Office for these states i.e., at Guwahati, in Assam. It becomes quite difficult for the citizens of Nagaland, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh to travel individually to the Regional Passport Office at Guwahati for clarifying the queries of Passport officials. The people of these States especially from the hilly and remote areas not only waste so many days to reach Guwahati but also spend their hard earnings unnecessarily for the purpose.

Moreover, the travel agents are making huge profits from the individuals on the pretext that they would arrange the passport from Guwahati Office and cheat the poor public. I would like to request the Ministry of external affairs to open a second Regional Passport Office at Dimapur for the States of Nagaland, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh to enable the public of these States to make their passports at the shortest time with minimum expenditure.