

Title : Need to establish a new passport office at Madurai, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI SIPPAPARAIA. RAVICHANDRAN : Vanakkam. Thousands of skilled labour are going from Tamil Nadu to Gulf and South Asian countries every year. Hundreds of students and IT professionals are going to USA and other Western countries every year both for education and jobs. As of now there are two passport offices in Tamil Nadu one in Chennai and another in Tiruchirappalli. 16 southern districts of Tamil Nadu come under Tiruchi passport office. Though every collectorate at the District headquarters have been made passport application collection centres, no great benefit has come about because processing and issuance of passport is done only in Chennai and Tiruchi passport offices. Thousands of applicants spread over 16 districts have to patiently wait for long time. This avoidable delay and waiting and also spending in travel by some passport applicants from these districts can be averted. Through this august House our leader Vaiko has been raising a fair demand right from 2002 to establish a new passport office in Madurai. Considering the urgent importance the Union Government must come forward to open a regional passport office in Madurai. This will ease the problems and help the public especially the people from the far south districts of Tamil Nadu.

With this, I conclude thanking the Chair for the opportunity.

SHRI P. MOHAN : Sir, I also associate.

**उपाध्यक्ष महोदय :** सदाशिवराव दादोबा मंडलिक : उपस्थित नहीं।

श्री संतोष गंगवार : उपस्थित नहीं।

श्री जसवंत सिंह बिश्नोई : उपस्थित नहीं।

श्री प्रभुनाथ सिंह : उपस्थित नहीं।

योगी आदित्यनाथ : उपस्थित नहीं।

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\* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.