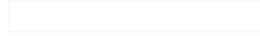


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Title: Need to set up a Passport Seva Kendra at Karimganj in Assam.

SHRI RADHESHYAM BISWAS (KARIMGANJ): Thank you, Deputy-Speaker, Sir. My Parliamentary Constituency, Karimganj, is situated on the international border with Bangladesh. There is a Border Trade Centre at Sutarkhandi, Assam, which is functioning since 2009. There is huge demand for passport in that Region for businessmen, students willing to study abroad, *Haj yatri* and other sections of the people also. But it is inconvenient for the local people to collect passport from Guwahati due to geographical barriers, disrupted road connectivity and due to long-distance, that is, about 340 kms., which becomes very costly.

The people of my Constituency have a long-standing demand to establish a Passport Seva Kendra in that Region. Recently, the Union External Affairs Ministry had announced to setup a new Passport Seva Kendra in the North-East Region.



So, my earnest request, through this august House, to the Union Government is to establish a Passport Seva Kendra at Karimganj, near Sutarkhandi Trade Center.