

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3057**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2018

**ATTESTATION OF EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES FOR GOING ABROAD**

3057. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attestation of educational and other certificates are being done by the Department/Ministry for students who apply in foreign country;
- (b) if so, whether the power of attestation of certificates would be delegated to State Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the number of centres to get attestation of educational and other certificates in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) Yes, attestation of educational and other certificates are being done by the Ministry of External Affairs if any foreign country requires such attestation from persons who are applying to go to that particular country.

(b) & (c) No. The foreign governments recognize the certificates attested by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India only. Therefore, the question of delegation of power of attestation to State Governments does not arise. However, the documents issued by the authorities of State Governments need to be pre-authenticated by concerned State Governments before submission to Ministry of External Affairs for attestation.

The Ministry has also launched a project named e-Sanad, which is aimed at online submission/verification of documents, with an ultimate object to extend contactless, cashless, faceless and paperless document attestation service. Currently, e-Sanad has been integrated with CBSE (for attestation of documents 2014 onwards), Maharashtra State Education Board, Confederation of Indian Industries and the Indo Latin American Chamber of Commerce. National Informatics Centre (NIC) is helping the Ministry in taking the concept forward with State Governments and other Chambers of Commerce for spreading the concept and utility of e-Sanad. The Ministry is also in dialogue with the Ministry of Human Resource Development for linking of e-Sanad with National Academic Depository (NAD), so that academic

documents which are available in NAD's digital depository could be accessed by e-Sanad for attestation online.

(d) The following offices under the Ministry of External Affairs are authorized to attest certificates:

- i) Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), New Delhi;
- ii) Branch Secretariat, MEA, Chennai;
- iii) Branch Secretariat, MEA, Guwahati;
- iv) Branch Secretariat, MEA, Hyderabad;
- v) Branch Secretariat, MEA, Kolkata;
- vi) Regional Passport Office (RPO), Bengaluru;
- vii) Regional Passport Office (RPO), Chennai;
- viii) Regional Passport Office (RPO), Goa;
- ix) Regional Passport Office (RPO), Mumbai; and
- x) Regional Passport Office (RPO), Thiruvanthapuram

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