

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION No. 2**  
**ANSWERED ON 20.07.2023**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF US CONSULATE IN PUNJAB**

**\*2. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to establish US Consulate in the State of Punjab, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the data in relation to the number of passports that have been issued in the State of Punjab in the last three years; and
- (c) the data in relation to the number of existing Passport Seva Kendra in the State of Punjab and whether the demand for establishing more Passport Seva Kendra in the State of Punjab is still pending before Government?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**  
**[DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR]**

- (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 2 FOR REPLY ON 20.07.2023 REGARDING “ESTABLISHMENT OF US CONSULATE IN PUNJAB”**

(a) The Government is not aware of any such proposal to establish US Consulate in the State of Punjab. This is a prerogative of the establishing party and no such initiative has been received for the consent of the Government of India.

(b) The number of passports that have been issued in Punjab in the last three years is as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Passports issued in Punjab</u>
2020	3,76,534
2021	5,02,455
2022	6,95,059

(c) There are seven (7) Passport Seva Kendars (PSKs) operating in the State of Punjab, namely Ambala, Ludhiana, Jalandhar-I, Jalandhar-II, Hoshiarpur, Chandigarh and Amritsar. Ministry, in association with Department of Posts (DoP), had announced in the year 2017 the opening of Passport Kendras at the Head Post Offices (HPO)/ Post Offices (PO) in the country called Post Office Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK) in each Lok Sabha Constituency where there is no PSK. As on date, nine (09) POPSK has been established in the State of Punjab and are operational to cater to the needs of passport seekers. All Lok Sabha Constituencies, except Khadoor Sahib, in Punjab are covered by PSKs/POPSKs.

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