

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-872
ANSWERED ON- 27/07/2023

PASSPORT SEVA KENDRAS IN KARNATAKA

872. SHRI IRANNA KADADI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether Government has detail on number of Passport Seva Kendras and POPSK established in Karnataka and country in last three years and if so, details thereof;

(b) whether Government has details on number of e-passport application registered in last three year and if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government has plan to provide passports and related services to people in a timely, reliable, accessible, transparent and efficient manner and if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has detail on measures to be taken under the second phase of Passport Seva Programme to include new and upgraded e-passports and if so, details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a to d) The number of Passport Seva Kendras in the country as on date is 93 and in Karnataka is 05 whereas POPSKs in the country is 430 and in Karnataka is 23. All the Lok Sabha Constituencies in Karnataka have a PSK/POPSK. Six POPSKs have been opened in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra and Andaman & Nicobar Island in the last three years as detailed in Annexure I.

The second phase of Passport Seva Programme will be rolled out in the coming months and will feature latest and upgraded technology for delivery of passport related services to the citizens in a speedy, convenient and transparent manner. It will be able to issue the e-passport, which is a combination of paper and electronic passport with an embedded Radio Frequency Identification (RFID chip) and antenna embedded as an inlay in the back cover. The passport's critical information will be printed on its data page as well as stored in the chip. The characteristics of the document and the chip are specified in International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) document 9303. Sample e-passports are currently being tested and the full-scale manufacture and issue will commence with the completion of the technical eco-system and infrastructure. The said facility would be made available in phases at all Passport Offices across India and at Indian Missions/Posts abroad.

ANNEXURE-I

S No.	State	POPSK	RPO	Date of opening
1	Madhya Pradesh	Seoni	Bhopal	11.11.2020
2	Andaman & Nicobar Island	Port Blair	Kolkata	14.12.2020
3	Bihar	Ekma	Patna	24.09.2021
4	Maharashtra	Dombivli	Mumbai	12.10.2021
5	Bihar	Supaul	Patna	20.10.2022
6	Maharashtra	Vasai	Mumbai	06.12.2022
