

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2346
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.11.2016**

PASSPORT THROUGH SPEED POST CENTRES

2346. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to provide Passport Seva facilities through Speed Post Centres across the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government will consider to provide aforesaid facilities in the Speed Post Centres in Pathanamthitta district in Kerala also which does not have any Passport Seva Kendra; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) In order to extend the passport services to citizen on a large scale and to ensure wide area coverage, the Ministry of External Affairs is exploring with the Department of Posts the methodology to utilize Head Post Offices (HPO).

The HPO at the following six places have been identified as Pilot sites for this project: (i) Civil Lines in Delhi; (ii) Patiala in Punjab; (iii) Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh; (iv) Cudappah in Andhra Pradesh; (v) Aurangabad in Maharashtra; and (vi) Bhuj in Gujarat. The Ministry is in the process of finalizing the Terms of Engagement with the Department of Posts and M/s Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) for this purpose.

(c) & (d) Once the project at the Pilot sites at the above HPO is operationalized successfully, the Ministry of External Affairs will then work out the system to extend it to all Head Post Offices.
