

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3504
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2018

SHORTAGE OF STAFF IN PASSPORT OFFICES

3504. ADV. M. UDHAYAKUMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there were 2697 passport office employees in 2009-10 against approximately 60 lakh applications and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there has been an increase of 65 lakh applications requiring appointment of additional 2080 staff members and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a large number of passport office employees have been posted at various other offices on deputation resulting in shortage of staff at passport offices; 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) The sanctioned strength of the Central Passport Organization (CPO) was 2697 in 2009-10. The number of passport applications received in India in 2009 and 2010 were 51.66 lakh and 55 lakh respectively.
- (b) The number of passport applications was 1.17 crore in 2017. The sanctioned strength remains 2697 in 2018-19. In addition, 15 Technical and 6 supporting staff man the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Passport Seva Project. The working strength of the CPO is 1985 as on 1 August, 2018. As an interim measure, 354 Data Entry Operators and 96 Office Assistants (MTS) have been deployed against the vacant non-Gazetted posts for smooth functioning of the Passport Offices through an Outsourced Agency to bridge the gap between the sanctioned strength and the working strength of the non-gazetted posts
- (c) & (d) No. The employees of the CPO have not been posted to other offices on deputation.
