GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2474 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.12.2018

PASSPORT SEVA PROJECT

2474. SHRI KUNWAR BHARATENDRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress of the Passport Seva Project and the launch of the kendras in all the constituencies:
- (b) whether the Government can provide an update on the tender process with regard to the passport seva programme; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

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

- (a) The Ministry in association with the Department of Posts has announced the opening of 407 Passport Kendras at the Head Post Offices (HPO)/ Post Offices (PO) in the country called 'Post Office Passport Seva Kendra' (POPSK). Out of the 407 POPSK announced, 251 POPSK are functional as on 20 December, 2018 taking the total functional Passport Seva Kendras in the country to 344.
- (b) & (c) The existing contract on Passport Seva Project between MEA and the Service Provider i.e. M/s Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) is valid upto $11^{\rm th}$ June, 2020. The Government has re-engaged the National Institute for Smart Government (NISG) as the Consultant for undertaking the tendering process so that a new Service Provider could be selected well before the expiry of the current contract with M/s TCS on 11 June, 2020.
