# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2948 ANSWERED ON- 17/03/2023

# **DELAY IN PASSPORT APPLICATION**

#### 2948. SHRI DIPSINH SHANKARSINH RATHOD

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

(a) whether the Government has noticed that the delay in clearance of the Passport application at RPO Ahmedabad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

#### ANSWER

### THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

### (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a & b) Due to the rise in demand and backlog resulted from the Covid-19 pandemic, the appointment cycle has gone up including at RPO Ahmedabad. However, the Ministry has been working continuously to speed up Passport issuance and meet high or seasonal demand for Passport by taking various steps including increasing the number of daily appointments and organising Special Drives or Melas on weekends. The Ministry conducted special drives in September-October 2022 to reduce the demand for Police Clearance Certificate and Passport melas on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> December 2022, 25<sup>th</sup> February and 04<sup>th</sup> March 2023 in various Passport offices including in Gujarat.

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