

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 757**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 07TH FEBRUARY, 2023/ MAGHA 18, 1944 (SAKA)

IMMIGRATION CLEARANCE

**757. SHRI RAJA AMARESHWARA NAIK:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (RAJU BHAIYA):
SHRI BHOLA SINGH:
DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that passengers are facing lots of difficulties in entering due to long queues at security check and immigration clearance at International airports in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is also aware that some passengers missed their flight due to long queues and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether immigration officials, who are often found absent from the counter, are leading to chaos and inconvenience to the passengers and if so, the action taken against such erring officials;

(d) whether the delays are also caused by acute shortage of staff and if so, the details thereof;

(e) the corrective steps taken by the Government; and

(f) whether the Government proposes to promote immigration facility at the ports to ensure the use of ports for contractual operation and utilizing their existing facilities and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a): Immigration clearance is a national security function and is carried out as per norms and procedures. Immigration clearance process primarily

includes (i) physical scrutiny of travel documents, (ii) scanning and reading of passport, visa through passport reading machine, (iii) validating details of visa in case of foreigners and passports in case of Indians from IVFRT database, (iv) checking of negative list, (v) questioning as per the alerts displayed and (vi) capturing/ authentication of biometrics of foreigners. Usually immigration clearance is granted in time without delay. However on some occasions when large number of international flights get bunched together within a narrow time frame, the sudden rush of passengers leads to some delay some times.

(b): No such incident has been brought to notice of the Government.

(c): Immigration officials are deployed round the clock. Counters are manned in a dynamic manner based on flow of passengers. Manpower is being increased but the recruitment and training process takes time.

(d) and (e): No delays are caused due to shortage of immigration staff. The immigration clearance time is well within norms prescribed by International Civil Aviation Organization.

(f): Government of India considers extending immigration facilities at those ports which fulfill the requirement of becoming Immigration Check Post as per the norms.
