

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2106
ANSWERED ON- 15/12/2023

VISA STAMPING CENTRES IN GUWAHATI

2106. KUMARI AGATHA K. SANGMA

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

- (a) the number of people from the North-Eastern States who travelled abroad during the last three years, country-wise;
- (b) Whether the people of North East are bound to travel to Kolkata or Delhi for any Visa application and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether the Government is cognizant of the logistical, financial and other challenges faced by the people of the North-Eastern States in travelling to distant cities for their visa application and medical tests and if so, the details of the proposed remedial steps by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) Whether the Government intends to coordinate with foreign consulates or embassies to establish such visa stamping and medical test centres in Guwahati, if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard and the tentative timeline thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

- (a) According to the nodal agency (Bureau of Immigration), data in the format requested is not maintained by the agency.
- (b) While most of the Embassies and Visa Facilitation Centres are located in Delhi, around 70 Consulates/Asstt. High Commissions are located in Kolkata. An applicant has to travel to the respective Embassies/Visa Facilitation Centre, as per their jurisdiction for completing the formalities for obtaining respective visa.
- (c & d) Opening and location of Embassies/Consulates and Visa Facilitation Centres is a matter of purview of foreign Governments, and Government of India has no role in their visa application collection process.
