

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2979
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.03.2020**

PASSPORT OF INFANTS

2979. **SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to bring about a change in passport laws to exempt infants to be physically present for biometric finger prints;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any representations in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]**

(a) (b) & (e) With effect from 28th September 2017, the Ministry has exempted infants/minor children upto the age of 5 years from giving biometrics (10 fingerprints) to the Passport Issuing Authority for processing their applications related to passport services. The infant/minor children upto the age of 5 years are, however, required to be physically present at the Passport Seva Kendra for capturing their photograph to be printed on the passport.

(c) & (d) Yes. The Ministry of External Affairs received a representation requesting for reconsidering the policy that requires the physical presence of newborns at the Passport Seva Kendra for biometric finger print for issue of passports.
