

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2982  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.03.2020**

**E-PASSPORT**

**2982. SHRI A. RAJA:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is mulling to issue e-Passports equipped with a chip within the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;**
- (c) the details of the funds estimated for this;**
- (d) the details of the target set; and**
- (e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (e) Yes. The Ministry has plans to issue chip-enabled e-passports to citizens with advanced security features. The personal particulars of the applicants would be digitally signed and stored in the chip which would be embedded in the passport booklet. In case, anyone tampers with the chip, the system shall be able to identify it resulting in the failure of the passport authentication.**

**The Government has given its approval for procurement of electronic contactless inlays for manufacturing of e-passports to India Security Press (ISP), Nashik. In this regard, ISP, Nashik has been authorized to float a global tender for procurement of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)-compliant electronic contactless inlays along with its operating system, which is required for manufacture of e-passports. Manufacture of e-passport will commence on the successful completion of the tendering and procurement process by ISP, Nashik.**

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