

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 4223

ANSWERED ON- 20/12/2024

PASSPORT OFFICE IN KATNI DISTRICT

4223. SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that due to the absence of any passport office in or around Katni city which is a big industrial centre and a growing city in the State of Madhya Pradesh with a large international local people there are facing lots of inconveniences;**
- (b) if so, whether efforts are being made by the Government to set up Passport office in Katni;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to d) For the convenience of citizens, Ministry of External Affairs in association with Department of Posts (DoP) decided in January 2017 to open Passport Seva Kendras(PSK) at Head Post Offices (HPO)/Post Offices (PO) in the country called Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSK) in each Lok Sabha Constituency (LSC) where there is no PSK or POPSK. As on date, 93 PSKs and 442 POPSKs have been set up across the country and are operational to cater to the needs of passport seekers.

Some parts of Katni district come under the Khajuraho LSC and some under Shahdol LSC. These LSCs already have operational PoPSKs at Chhatarpur and Shahdol since 10.02.2019 and 02.03.2024 respectively.

Appointment for Passport application are available for the next working day. In addition to this, POPSK Jabalpur (95 kms) and POPSK Damoh (107 kms) are also operational in neighbouring LSCs. Additionally, there are two (02) Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) - one each in Bhopal and Indore; and twenty two (22) Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSKs) working under the jurisdiction of Regional Passport Office, Bhopal, in Madhya Pradesh.
