

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 938

ANSWERED ON - 24/07/2026

HIKE IN PASSPORT FEES

938. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

DR. GANAPATHY RAJKUMAR P:

SHRI N K PREMACHANDRAN:

THIRU THANGA TAMILSELVAN:

SHRI K C VENUGOPAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of Passport Offices and Passport Seva Kendras across the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether recently the Government has increased the fees for Ordinary and Tatkal Passports;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the cost incurred in issuing a Ordinary and Tatkal Passport along with the total revenue collected

from Passport issuance and related services during the last three years and reasons for the increase;

(d) whether this will financially impact migrant workers, students, senior citizens, middle and lower class people, if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has received any request from any individual or tourist's association to reduce fee/consider withdrawing it, if so, the response of the Government thereto; and

(f) whether the Government treat the service of External Affairs as a profit making procedure, if so, the details of projected additional revenue expected annually due to this recent fee hike ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) Passport Offices and Passport Seva Kendras continue to provide passport services efficiently across the country. In Andhra Pradesh, the average time taken for issuance of passports (excluding Police Verification) was 11 days in 2023, 11 days in 2024 and 13 days in 2025.

The details of performance of Passport Offices and Passport Seva Kendras across the country is enclosed at Annexure-I.

(b) to (f) The fee for all passport and passport-related services prescribed under Schedule IV of the Passports Rules, 1980 has been revised vide Gazette Notification G.S.R. No. 516(E) dated 25.06.2026, with effect from 1 July 2026. A copy of the Gazette notification having revised fee is enclosed as Annexure-II.

The issuance of a passport involves several components of expenditure. The major direct cost elements include: Cost of Passport Booklet, Printing of data in the Passport booklet, Payment to Service Provider, Payment to Police Department for Police Verification, Payment to Department of Post, Courier charges, Expenditure on Technical support and cost of ePassport project including its operation and maintenance for validation of ePassports through Public Key Directory in compliance with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) guidelines. Besides these, there are a number of other expenditure components relating to human resources, establishment and infrastructure. These include payment of salaries

and allowances to Passport Officers and officials, expenditure on office premises, IT infrastructure, expenses on court cases, etc.

Passport fees are revised from time to time after a comprehensive review of the cost of providing passport and related services, operational requirements, and service delivery improvements. Earlier, passport fees were revised in 1971, 1980, 1993, 2002, 2012, and now in 2026. A number of initiatives have been taken for improvement of passport services including implementation of upgraded Passport Seva Programme (PSP) Version 2.0 and e-Passports which has enhanced the quality, security and efficiency of passport services, while increasing the cost of service delivery. In addition, the increase in the cost of various inputs and service delivery over the fourteen years since the last revision in 2012 made it necessary to revise the passport fees.

The rendering of passport service is not a profit making procedure. All passport fees collected goes to the Consolidated Fund of India.

Lok Sabha Unstarred Parliament Question

on

Hike in Passport Fees

**Annexure to part (a) of the question about ‘Performance of Passport
Offices and Passport Seva Kendras in country’**

**The average time taken for issuance of passports (excluding Police
Verification) across the country (State/UT wise) for the year 2023,
2024 and 2025 are as under. This is the average time taken for
issuance of a Passport (excluding Police Verification).**

State/UT Name	Average time taken for issuance of a passport (Excluding Police Verification)		
	2023 (no. of days)	2024 (no. of days)	2025 (no. of days)
Andaman and Nicobar	3	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	11	11	13

Arunachal Pradesh	12	13	19
Assam	11	11	18
Bihar	9	9	8
Chandigarh	11	14	13
Chhattisgarh	18	25	38
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	12	21	23
Daman and Diu	27	23	20
Delhi	9	8	8
Goa	2	2	3
Gujarat	18	13	11
Haryana	13	14	13
Himachal Pradesh	7	6	8
Jammu and Kashmir	13	10	12
Jharkhand	16	10	10
Karnataka	9	12	13
Kerala	4	3	5
Ladakh	32	27	15
Lakshadweep	4	5	11
Madhya Pradesh	8	7	10
Maharashtra	8	8	10
Manipur	7	7	11

Meghalaya	10	10	14
Mizoram	8	7	10
Nagaland	14	12	19
Odisha	22	39	29
Puducherry	5	5	6
Punjab	10	11	12
Rajasthan	11	12	16
Sikkim	4	4	8
Tamil Nadu	5	8	10
Telangana	13	10	11
Tripura	7	14	19
Uttar Pradesh	16	16	14
Uttarakhand	21	21	30
West Bengal	10	18	19

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, dated the 20th June, 2026.

G.S.R. 516(E).— In exercise of the powers conferred by section 24 of the Passports Act, 1967(15 of 1967), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Passports Rules, 1980, namely:—

1. (1) These rules may be called the Passports (Amendment) Rules, 2026.

(2) They shall come into force with effect from the 1st day of July, 2026.

2. For Schedule IV to the Passports Rules, 1980, the following Schedule shall be substituted, namely:—

‘SCHEDULE IV

(See rule 8)

Schedule of fees payable in respect of applications for passport and travel documents

Sl. No.	Particulars of application	Scale of fees			
		Normal Fee		<i>Tatkaal</i> fee (inclusive of normal fee)	
		India	Abroad	India	Abroad
		Rs.	\$	Rs.	\$
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
I. PASSPORT— (a) Applicants (18 years of age and above / Minors aged between 15 to 18 years, if applied under this category) :					
1.	For an ordinary fresh passport or reissue of passport containing 36 pages	2500	125	5000	250
2.	For an ordinary fresh passport or reissue of passport	3500	175	6000	300

	containing 60 pages				
3.	For an ordinary passport in lieu of lost or damaged passport containing 36 pages	5000	250	7500	375
4.	For an ordinary passport in lieu of lost or damaged passport containing 60 pages	6000	300	8500	425
(b) Minor Applicants (below 18 years of age) :					
5.	For an ordinary fresh passport or reissue of passport containing 36 pages	1750	90	4250	215
6.	For an ordinary passport in lieu of lost or damaged passport containing 36 pages	4250	215	6750	340
II. SPECIAL TRAVEL DOCUMENT—					

7.	Emergency Certificate	NA	15	NA	NA
8.	Certificate of Identity	1000	50	NA	NA
III. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES—					
9.	Issue of Police Clearance Certificate or Surrender Certificate or Global Entry Program verification or any other Miscellaneous certificates based on the passport	750	40	NA	NA

Note:

1. **“NA” means “not applicable”.**
2. **The validity of passports issued under serial number I(a) shall not exceed ten years, and the validity of passports issued under serial number I(b) shall be for five years or until the applicant attains the age of 18 years, whichever is earlier.**

3. **There shall be a discount of ten per cent. in passport fee for fresh applications (and not for re-issue) in respect of minors up to the age of 8 years and senior citizens (persons above the age of 60 years).'**

[No. 401/01/20/2025]

B.S. MUBARAK, Jt. Secy. and Chief Passport Officer

Note.— The Passport Rules, 1980 were published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), vide notification number G.S.R. 691(E), dated the 11th December, 1980 and last amended vide notification number G.S.R. 156 (E), dated the 24th February, 2025.
