

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 3346

ANSWERED ON 07/08/2026

DEMAND FOR POPSK IN ISLAMPUR

3346. SHRI KARTICK CHANDRA PAUL

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering the establishment of a Post Office Passport Seva Kendra(POPSK) in Islampur Sub Division, West Bengal in view of demand from local residents for better accessibility to passport services, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether any action has been taken regarding the establishment of POPSK in Islampur and if so, the details thereof, along with the future plans to address this demand; and**
- (c) the number of passports issued by the existing POPSK in Raiganj during the last five years, year-wise?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) & (b) Opening of Passport Offices (POs), Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) and Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSKs) is an on-going activity that depends upon factors including scalability of the existing PSK/POPSK, distance from the nearest POs/ PSKs/ POPSKs and the increasing volume of passport applications from a particular region. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has taken several steps to expand and strengthen the network of PSKs and POPSKs across the country, including in West Bengal. MEA, in association with the Department of Posts (DoP), has opened numerous Seva Kendras at the Head Post Offices (HPOs)/Post Offices (POs) in each Lok Sabha Constituency (LSC) where there is no PSK or POPSK, including in West Bengal. Under this initiative, a POPSK is already operational in Raiganj LSC, of which Islampur sub division is part.

(c) The number of passports issued by the Regional Passport Office, Kolkata *via* POPSK, Raiganj during the last five years is as under :

<u>Data on Passports Issued Through POPSK, Raiganj</u>	
<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Passports Issued</u>
2021	2,688
2022	6,061
2023	6,298
2024	4,510
2025	2,825
2026 (till 30.06.2026)	1,738
