



Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India

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QUESTION NO.220 PASSPORTS TO TAMILS FROM SRI LANKA, MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE

March 15, 2018

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.220
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2018

PASSPORTS TO TAMILS FROM SRI LANKA, MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE

*220. DR. V. MAITREYAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any measures to provide Indian Passport to a large number of Tamils from Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore, settled and living in India for a very long period;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has provided adequate support to State Governments for providing basic facilities to Tamil population from Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore and Burma; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the funds provided for their welfare during the last three years, year-wise?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

*****STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 220 REGARDING "PASSPORTS TO TAMILS FROM SRI LANKA, MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE" FOR ANSWER ON 15.03.2018

(a) & (b) Indian Passports are issued only to citizens of India, if they fulfil the following criteria:

(i) that the applicant has not been, at any time during the period of five years immediately preceding the date of his application, been convicted by a court in India for any offence involving moral turpitude and sentenced in respect thereof to imprisonment for not less than two years;

(ii) that proceedings in respect of an offence alleged to have been committed by the applicant are not pending before a criminal court in India;

(iii) that a warrant or summons for the appearance, or a warrant for the arrest, of the applicant has not been issued by a court under any law for the time being in force or that an order prohibiting the departure from India of the applicant has not been made by any such court; and

(iv) that the applicant has never applied for/ or been granted political asylum by any foreign country.

(v) that if Tamils from Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Singapore settled and living in India for a very long period, fulfil the above criteria, they may, however, make an application for issue of a passport under the Passports Act, 1967 to a Passport Issuing Authority.

(c) & (d) This matter pertains to the Ministry of Home Affairs.



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