

(c) whether it is a fact that till date no action has been taken in this context by the Ministry to establish the said RPO;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when the said RPO would be established at Rajkot and Vadodara?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) :
(a) to (e) Yes. The Ministry, under the Passport Seva Project (PSP), will be setting up 5 Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) in the State of Gujarat. Out of 5 PSKs, one each will be set up in Rajkot and Vadodara under the jurisdiction of Regional Passport Office, Ahmedabad. The work on establishment of PSKs in Rajkot and Vadodara has been going on at full speed and they are expected to be made operational by January, 2012.

Nuclear bombs with Pakistan

1129. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that as compared to India the neighbouring country, Pakistan has more nuclear bombs, most of which are deployed on India-Pakistan border; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) :
(a) and (b) Government has seen media/think-tank reports estimating the size of Pakistan's nuclear arsenal. Government does not comment on the veracity of specific reports about nuclear weapons of various countries. Government continuously monitors all developments having a bearing on national security and takes all necessary steps to safeguard it.

Report on Nuclear Programme of Iran

†1130. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has published a report about Nuclear Programme of Iran;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that there is mention of assistance to Pakistan and assistance being provided to other countries of the world in it; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and whether any diplomatic action has been taken on international level by India in this context and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) :
(a) and (b) On 8 November, 2011 the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) issued a report on "Implementation of the NPT Safeguards Agreement and relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions in the Islamic Republic of Iran." There is a mention of Pakistan in a footnote of the report.

(c) India has said that the DG's Report highlights once again the need for international focus on the role of the so-called Clandestine Proliferation Network.

Legal provisional for foreign visits

†1131. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the legal provisions concerning the foreign visits of official and non-official of the Ministers of Central Government;

(b) the details of the official and non-official visits of the Ministers of Central Government during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the applications sent by the Ministers of Central Government for foreign visits during the last three years and the number of those approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) :
(a) Political clearances for official and non-officials foreign visits of the Ministers of the Central Government are granted as per the guidelines issued by the Cabinet Secretariat from time to time.

(b) and (c) The details of such political clearances issued for foreign visits of the Ministers of the Central Government during the last three years are given below:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.