

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2006
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2021

ATTESTATION OF DOCUMENTS BY INDIAN MISSIONS ABROAD

2006. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all documents including Power of Attorneys (POAs) when produced in Indian Courts / Authorities need attestation by the Indian Missions abroad and service is rendered by the Indian Mission only after applicant's signatures are authenticated and stamp of the High Commission is affixed;
- (b) whether Honorary Consul, Consulate of India in Auckland, New Zealand is also empowered/ authorised to attest on behalf of High Commission; and
- (c) if so, the complete details thereof ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[DR RAJKUMAR RANJAN SINGH]

(a) All documents, including Power of Attorneys (POAs), issued/executed abroad require attestation by Indian Missions/Posts in the respective country (or apostille by the issuing country, in case of member countries of the Hague Apostille Convention, 1961) before they are produced before Indian courts/authorities. For documents, where signatures are required to be attested (such as a POA), the attesting authority of the Mission/Post has to certify "Signed before me", as a proof of his/her witnessing the applicant signing the document, along with his/her signature and stamp.

(b) & (c) Yes. As per established procedures, attestation of all documents (including Power of Attorneys) is done by High Commission of India, Wellington and the stamp of the High Commission is affixed only after applicants' signatures are authenticated. Also, Honorary Consul of India in Auckland is empowered/authorized to perform attestation/notarial functions in respect of documents required to be produced in India or documents required by Indian citizens for production to the local or Indian authorities.
