GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2477 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022

RENEWAL OF INDIAN PASSPORT IN SAUDI ARABIA

2477. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the Indian Embassy in Saudi Arabia is not renewing the passport of Indian citizens whose 'Ikhama' are expired, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has instructed the authorities of Indian Embassy in Saudi Arabia not to renew the passport without a valid 'Ikhama,' if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Saudi Arabian Government has demanded Indian Embassy not to renew the passports of Indian Citizens without a valid 'Ikhama,' if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

- (a) & (b) Our Mission/Post in Saudi Arabia are issuing a five year Short Validity Passport (SVP) to the applicants whose Ikhama has expired in order to facilitate the regularization of applicants stay in the host country. Once their visa is regularized, a full validity passport is issued. It may be mentioned that Ikhama/valid visa is mandatory for staying legally in Saudi Arabia.
- (c) No.
