

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1035
ANSWERED ON- 13/02/2025

HENLEY PASSPORT INDEX

1035. DR. V. SIVADASAN

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

- a) the rank of India in Henley Passport Index since 2020;
- b) the reasons for the fall from 74th place in 2013 to 82nd in 2024; and
- c) the number of countries to which Indian citizens can travel visa free, year-wise data since 2020?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to c) There are certain private institutions, which publish such ratings based on parameters decided by them. However, there is no widely accepted ranking system for passports at global level that can be taken as a standard, in the absence of acceptable criteria to rank passports. The Government of India has been continuously making efforts to increase the number of countries that may provide visa free travel, visa-on-arrival and e-Visa facilities to Indians for ease of traveling around the world. As on date, 26 countries provide visa-free entry, 40 countries provide visa-on-arrival facility and 58 countries provide e-Visa facility to Indian passport holders, details of the same are updated from time to time by this Ministry on its website, which can be accessed on the following link: <https://www.mea.gov.in/VFFIN.htm>

However, formulation of policies with respect to issuance of visas is a sovereign matter of the respective country and the matter regarding providing visa free entry/ visa-on-arrival facility also depends on various factors including bilateral relations and principle of reciprocity.
