

1	2	3	4
Kala-azar	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00
EAC	3517.39	6064.95	7389.73
Estt./Publicity/Research	571.10	541.35	1271.41
Grand Total	16393.97	18816.30	19179.55

[Translation]

Passport Charges

5422. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed different rates for issuing Passport ranging from Rs. 1500/- to Rs. 3000/- depending upon the time taken to arrange it;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to issue Passports to its applicants within a stipulated period at normal charges;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) In recognition of the genuine need of some passport applicants for out-of-turn issue of passports, the Tatkaal Scheme has been implemented with effect from 1.1.2000. The Tatkaal Scheme is applicable only in cases of genuine urgency where either police verification is not required or where a passport can be issued on post police verification basis along with the submission of a verification certificate issued by an officer of the rank of Deputy Secretary and above to Government of India. Passports under this Scheme are issued on payment of an additional fee of Rs. 1500/- for a passport to be issued within ten days of receipt of application and Rs. 1000/- for a passport to be issued between 11 and 35 days of the receipt of application.

(c) to (e) It is the Government's endeavour to issue passports on payment of normal passport fee in 5-6 weeks provided a clear Police Verification Report has been received and the application is complete in all other respects and no out-of-turn service is to be provided.

Electropathy/Electro-Homoeopathy

5423. SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States in the country in which practice of Electropathy/Electro-Homoeopathy is banned;

(b) whether Government are aware that High Court of Delhi had recently asked the State of Delhi to frame rules in regard to practice of Electropathy/Electro-Homoeopathy in the State;

(c) whether the Delhi Government has approached the main Government for guidelines in the matter;

(d) whether the Government are considering to recognise Electropathy/Electro-Homoeopathy as alternate system of medicine in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (f) Electropathy/Electro-homeopathy System of Medicine has not been recognized by the Government as such details of names of the States in the country in which practice of Electropathy/Electrohomeopathy is banned, is not available.

High Court of Delhi in its order dated 18.11.1998 in CWP 4015/96 & 8468/97, has directed Central/State Governments to consider making legislation on various issues on electropathy & other Alternative Systems of Medicine. The Standing Committee of experts which was constituted by the Government to examine the claims of recognition of electropathy/electrohomoeopathy & other alternative methods of treatment and also to examine the feasibility of making legislation as directed by High Court of Delhi, has recently submitted its report. A decision on the recommendation of the Committee will be taken by the Government after detailed examination.