



MESSAGE

It gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest greetings to all our Passport Issuing Authorities in India and abroad on the occasion of the 14th Passport Seva Divas.

This day marks the historic anniversary of the enactment of the Passports Act of 1967. It is an annual opportunity for the Ministry of External Affairs to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to providing citizen-centric, transparent, and highly efficient passport-related services. Driven by the Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi ji's vision of "Minimum Government, Maximum Governance", the Passport Seva Programme has emerged as a shining exemplar of *Sushasan* and ease of living, serving as an example for building a *Viksit Bharat*.

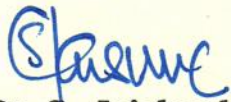
Our efforts to integrate public services into a seamless digital ecosystem have achieved new milestones. I am delighted to highlight that last year, the Ministry operationalised the upgraded Passport Seva Programme (PSP V2.0) across our vast domestic network. Alongside this, we also reinforced the security and convenience of the Indian diaspora through the deployment of the Global Passport Seva Programme (GPSP V2.0) at our diplomatic missions and posts worldwide. This unified digital infrastructure guarantees that both domestic applicants and Indian nationals abroad have access to the cutting-edge digital ecosystem.

A defining feature of this technological shift is the successful rollout of chip-enabled e-Passports. Meeting international benchmarks, these travel documents enhance security and authentication for our citizens. By leveraging advanced technologies and secure integrations with systems like DigiLocker, we are making the application processing faster, more transparent, and user-friendly.

We continue to expand our infrastructure via an extensive network of 545 plus Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) and Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSKs). Complemented by the deployment of Passport Mobile Vans, we are actively bridging the last-mile connectivity gap. This brings reliable, flexible, and convenient services to the farthest corners and rural heartlands of our country. I am delighted to note that the annual passport issuance volume has surged to more than 138 lakh in FY 2025-26 compared to 83 lakh in FY 2013-14, a testament to Ministry's commitment towards meeting the aspirations of a globalising India.

I take this opportunity to commend the dedicated workforce of Ministry and the Central Passport Organisation for their tireless efforts and all our partners in the Passport Seva Programme including the Department of Posts, Police authorities, India Security Press Nashik and other service providers for their continued contribution.

Let us rededicate ourselves today to the guiding principle of Surakshit Passport, Sugam Seva, Sashakt Nagrik. Together, let us continue to innovate, simplify rules, and relentlessly strive toward setting a global standard in citizen-centric public service delivery.


(Dr. S. Jaishankar)

June 24, 2026