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PRESS RELEASE

OPENING OF POST OFFICE PASSPORT SEVA KENDRA IN KAVARATTI, UT OF LAKSHADWEEP ON 03-03-2017

In order to extend passport services to the citizens on a larger scale and to ensure wide area coverage, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and the Department of Posts (DOP) have agreed to utilize the Head Post Offices (HPO) in the various States as Post Office Passport Seva Kendra (POPSK). The pilot projects for this joint venture between MEA and DOP was inaugurated on 25-01-17 at Head Post Office, Mysuru in Karnataka and at the Post Office at Dahod in Gujarat.

With the successful operationalization of these two pilot projects, the Government of India has now decided to extend this by opening 56 more POPSKs in various States across the Country. Under RPO, Cochin, Kavaratti, UT of Lakshadweep, has been identified. Shri Mohammed Faizal P.P, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Lakshadweep, will inaugurate the Post Office Passport Seva Kendra in Kavaratti on 03-03-17 in Sub Post Office, Kavaratti.

Initially, the POPSK will work in Camp mode and would eventually be moving to PSK mode. Only fresh and re-issue applications will be accepted in POPSK. 25 online appointment slots will be released on 20-02-17. For online registration and more information, please visit **www.passportindia.gov.in**

Applicants may visit Post Office Passport Seva Kendra at the scheduled appointment time after taking online appointment. The ARN and requisite documents in original along with self-attested photocopies should be brought by the applicant on the day of appointment for submission.

[Prasanth Chandran]
Regional Passport Officer