भारत सरकार विदेश मंत्रालय क्षेत्रीय पासपोर्ट कार्यालय वेंगलर

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## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

## REGIONAL PASSPORT OFFICE BANGALORE

20<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

## **Press Release**

## Passport Melas to meet the Increased Demand

In view of the high demand for passport related services in Karnataka, the Regional Passport Office, Bengaluru will be holding two 'Passport Melas' across the state on 31st January 2015 (Saturday) and 14th February 2015 (Saturday) to help expedite the submission of passport applications. On the day of Mela, the service at PSK will be on appointment only, and all walk-ins including On-Hold cases will NOT be entertained. The Mela will be held simultaneously at all the 4 PSKs in Karnataka (Lalbagh Road - Bengaluru, Outer Ring Road Marathalli – Bengaluru, Hubballi and Mangaluru). A total of 9000 applicants are expected to benefit from these Passport Melas by submitting their applications.

4500 normal appointments (3000 @ Bengaluru and 750 each @ Hubballi & Mangaluru) for the Mela on 31/01/2015 will be released on 27/01/2015 (Tuesday) at 4.30 p.m. on first-cum-first-served basis and another 4500 appointments for the Mela on 14/02/2015 will be released on 09/02/2015 (Monday) at 4.30 p.m. To participate in these Passport Melas, all applicants have to log on to the official website 'www.passportindia.gov.in', register on-line, generate 'ARN' [Application Registration Number], and pay online fees and then take the appointment. Applicants participating in the Mela should bring the print-out of ARN with appointment details, to the respective Passport Seva Kendra (PSK) along with the requisite documents in originals, plus one set of self attested photocopies.

RPO Bengaluru has been conducting Passport Melas and Camps at regular intervals in the weekends to address the rush of passport seekers and to cut down the waiting time for seeking passport related services. In the year 2014, RPO Bangalore had conducted 6 Melas across the state and 3 Passport Seva Camps in Karwar, Mysuru and Belagavi.

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