

NEED FOR MECHANIZATION

8. The proposal to replace the present passport writing machines with modern equipment which can produce passports efficiently is deemed necessary for the following reasons.

1. The need exists to ensure delivery of a passport within one week of receipt of an application to satisfy public demand for a faster service.
2. There has been an increase in the volume of passports issued due to the fact that more and more people are travelling abroad. Passports issued have increased from 115,000 in 1959 to 155,000 in 1962 and it is expected that the figure of 200,000 will be reached in 1965.
3. The present system requires heavy reliance on casual workers and overtime for regular workers to cope with peak workloads.
4. There is now a high passport spoilage rate which is costly and time consuming.

9. In view of the increased volume of business likely to confront the Passport Division in the immediate future, it is concluded that there is a justifiable application for a mechanical system superior to the one now used.