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BGD42162.E

11 November 2003

Bangladesh: Whether a man is required to give his consent when a passport is requested by his wife or child

Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board, Ottawa

According to a counsellor at the Bangladesh High Commission in Ottawa, a woman does not need her husband's consent in order to obtain a passport (13 Nov. 2003).

In the case of a child under the age of 12, the counsellor stated that the child would usually be included on the mother's passport; however, should there be cause for concern regarding the application, the consular officer may make a request for the child's other parent (either mother or father) to provide her or his consent (Bangladesh 13 Nov. 2003). The counsellor added that although there is no official requirement for parental consent for children over the age of 12 who apply for a passport, they are typically accompanied by a parent when filing their application (ibid.).

Moreover, all passport applicants are required to provide their birth certificate, which includes the names of the applicant's mother and father (ibid.).

The counsellor also noted that since 2002, the names of the applicant's mother and father appear in all Bangladesh passports (ibid.).

For additional information on whether a parent can take her or his child out of the country without the consent of the parent, please consult BGD42137.E of 11 November 2003.

This Response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research Directorate within time constraints. This Response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum.

Reference

Bangladesh High Commission, Ottawa. 13 November 2003. Telephone interview with a counsellor.

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