



## Foreign & Commonwealth Office

### Consular Directorate

Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
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Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

10 February 2015

Dear

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: FOI 0042-15**

Thank you for your email of 15 January 2015 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

*"Can the Foreign and Commonwealth Office disclose the following information:*

- 1) Will the production of a valid Bangladeshi passport satisfy the registration officer of a child's identity for the requirement in regulation 5(2)(a) of The Registration of Overseas Births and Deaths regulations 2014? If not, why not?*
- 2) Will the production of a child's Bangladeshi locally issued birth certificate issues within twelve months of the child's birth satisfy the registration officer of the facts of the birth as required in regulation 5(2)(b) of The Registration of Overseas Births and Deaths Regulations 2014? If not, why not?*
- 3) Where a child's claim to British citizenship is acquired by descent through a parent who was born in the United Kingdom after 01/01/1983 and that child does not have evidence of the grandparents Immigration or nationality status at the time of the birth of the parent in question, will the production of a Status Letter endorsed with the Home Office emboss seal which confirms the Home Secretary has declared the child is a British citizen by provision of section 2(1)(a) of the British Nationality Act 1981 satisfy the registration officer of the requirements in regulations 5(2)(c) of The Registration of Overseas Births and Deaths Regulations 2014?*
- 4) Does the Foreign and Commonwealth Office process Overseas Birth Registration applications for British citizens born in Bangladesh?*
- 5) If the answer to 4 is "yes" please can disclose which department within Foreign and Commonwealth Office determines if an applicant has automatic claim to British citizenship?*
- 6) What is Foreign and Commonwealth Office postal address to serve a Pre-Action Protocol letter?"*



We have now completed our search and consultation process and I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold some information relevant to your request.

The responses to your questions are as follows:

- 1) Production of a Bangladeshi passport would certainly help but we might ask to see other documentary evidence of the child's identity which would include the birth certificate and possibly the hospital certificate to show that the child's identity was established at birth. The documents required to satisfy a registration officer on a child's identity vary from country to country depending on local circumstances and experience on the robustness of some documents.
- 2) The regulations stipulate that a local birth certificate is required to satisfy a registration officer as to the facts of the event. We would accept a local birth certificate in this context.
- 3) This will depend on the wording of the Status Letter. If the Status Letter is worded to the effect that Home Office accepts the parent's status under the British Nationality Act 1981 then we would in principle accept the Status Letter as confirmation of the individual's status.
- 4) Consular registration applications are processed by the British High Commission in Dhaka by consular staff.
- 5) Nationality determinations for the purpose of consular birth registrations are made by the consular staff in Dhaka. Where there is doubt about an individual's claim to British nationality, staff in Consular Directorate provide additional advice.
- 6) The address is – Legal Advisers, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH.

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I hope you are satisfied with this reply. However, if you wish to make a complaint or if you would like a review of our decision, please write to the FOI and DPA Team at:



Foreign and Commonwealth Office,  
Room K4.14,  
King Charles Street,  
London, SW1A 2AH.  
E-mail: [foi-dpa.imd@fco.gov.uk](mailto:foi-dpa.imd@fco.gov.uk).

You have 40 working days to do so from the date of this letter. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may then apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FCO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

You can also find out more about previous FOI replies published on our website at [Publications - Inside Government - GOV.UK](#).

Yours sincerely,

Consular FOI/DPA team  
Consular Directorate

