

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1114**  
ANSWERED ON- 08/12/2023

**COOPERATION WITH CANADA INVESTIGATION**

1114. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH  
SHRI ANTO ANTONY  
SHRI BENNY BEHANAN  
SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN  
ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether the Government has made clear an official position in response to calls for cooperation with Canada's investigation into the murder of Hardeep Singh Nijjar;
- (b) the reasons for the suspension and subsequent resumption of Indian visa services in Canada;
- (c) the steps taken to protect the interests of Indian visa holders, and Indian students studying in Canada;
- (d) whether the Government has any plan to grant tourist visa to Canadian citizens; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with steps taken by the Government in this regard, if any?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

- (a) The Government has rejected the allegations of Government of India's involvement in any act of violence in Canada. While calling for India's 'cooperation', Canadian government has not provided any specific and relevant information for us to act upon. The Government has conveyed to the Government of Canada our concerns about anti- India elements in Canada and their activities, and requested Canada to take action against such elements and deny space given to them.
- (b) Due to the security environment in Canada and incitement to violence against our diplomats, our consular operations in Canada were disrupted.
- (c) We have issued an advisory for all Indian nationals, including students and those visiting Canada, to exercise utmost caution and avoid travelling to regions and potential venues in Canada that have seen such incidents. We have also urged Indian nationals in Canada, including students to register with our High Commission in Ottawa or Consulates General in Toronto and Vancouver through their respective websites, or the MADAD portal madad.gov.in. This will enable the High Commission and the Consulates General to better connect with Indian citizens in Canada in the event of any emergency or untoward incident.

(d & e) After a considered review of the security situation, from 26 October 2023, some categories of visa are being issued to the Canadian nationals through the IVFRT portal. From 22 November 2023, e-visas for Canadian nationals were resumed, including e-Tourist visa. Government will continue to monitor the security situation in Canada from this perspective.

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