

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:201
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003
VISA RESTRICTIONS BY INDONESIA
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indonesia has recently imposed stringent visa restrictions on Indians as reported in the `Hindustan Times` dated November 13, 2003;
- (b) if so, whether the matter was discussed between the officials of the two countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA)

- (a) Yes. Indonesian authorities decided in September 2003 to ensure compliance with existing guidelines for the grant of visas to ordinary passport holders for around 20 countries regarded as sensitive for immigration purposes, including India.
- (b) and (c) Yes. The matter has been taken up with the Indonesian Embassy in New Delhi and with the Indonesian authorities in Jakarta, with a view to ensure that there are no difficulties for Indian nationals in obtaining visas for Indonesia.
- (d) The Indonesian authorities have assured us of their full cooperation.