

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2023

ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004

BUS SERVICE

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

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

- (a) whether there is a proposal to introduce a bus-service between Srinagar and Muzaffarabad in PoK;
- (b) if so, the status of the proposal as on date;
- (c) whether there is also a proposal for a direct bus link between India & Nepal ; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard including the time by when it is likely to be started?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) & (b) India had, on October 22, 2003, inter alia, proposed to Pakistan the commencement of a bus service between Srinagar and Muzaffarabad. The issue was also raised during the meeting of Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan on June 27-28, 2004 in New Delhi. Technical discussions would be necessary for operationalising the proposed service.

(c) & (d) The Governments of India and Nepal have finalized the text of an Agreement for regulation of Motor Vehicle (passenger) traffic between the two countries with a view to strengthening people to people relations between India and Nepal by facilitating the operation of passenger traffic service between the two countries, including buses.

Once the Agreement is approved by the two governments and signed, regular and non-regular passenger transport vehicles would operate between the two countries under this agreement.