

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2146  
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005  
SPECIAL TOUR PACKAGE FOR PAK TOURISTS  
Kaswan Shri Ram Singh;Mahajan Shri Y.G.

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

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to send a proposal to Pakistan offering special tour package for Pakistani tourists in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether talks are likely to be held between the two countries in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) - (d) The issue of group tourism has been discussed with Pakistan during talks in the framework of Composite Dialogue. During the first round of talks in August 2004, India proposed that Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) and Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) could start group tours to specific tourist places. There was no response from Pakistan to this proposal. During the second round of talks in July 2005, India once again proposed promotion of group tourism packages through select private tour operators and introduction of 14 days special tourist visa regime. There was no response from Pakistan to this proposal. India and Pakistan have agreed to have the third round of the Composite Dialogue from January to July 2006.