## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1112 ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009 ISSUE OF VISA BY CHINA TO INDIAN NATIONALS

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

- (a) whether China is issuing visa to Indian nationals from Jammu & Kashmir and Arunachal Pradesh on loose sheets;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government of India has taken up the matter with the Chinese Government;
- (d) if so, the reaction of Chinese side thereto;
- (e) whether the Government has issued any advisory to all the airports to follow the Indian norms strictly; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

## **Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

- (a) Yes.
- (b) China regards Kashmir as a bilateral matter to be settled between India and Pakistan. In the case of Arunachal Pradesh, China disputes the international boundary between India and China and illegally claims approximately 90,000 square kilometers of Indian territory.
- (c) to (f) Government has conveyed to the Chinese side its clear and consistent position that Jammu & Kashmir and Arunachal Pradesh are integral parts of India. Government has issued an advisory stating that visas on a separate sheet of paper are not considered valid for travel out of the country.