

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4225  
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012  
IMPHAL-MANDALAY BUS SERVICE  
Meinya Dr. Thokchom

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal to start Imphal-Mandalay Bus Service;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to grant visa on arrival by both India and Myanmar; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR)

(a) to (d) The Joint Statement issued during the State Visit of the Prime Minister to Myanmar in May 2012, inter alia, stated that taking into account the importance of enabling people-to-people contacts, the two sides agreed to launch a trans-border bus service from Imphal to Mandalay. The two leaders directed the concerned officials from both sides to finalise all modalities to enable its early operationalisation.

In this context, technical level talks were held between India and Myanmar in September 2012 and both sides finalised the text of a Memorandum of Understanding for introduction of passenger bus service between Imphal and Mandalay. The two sides had also discussed the draft Protocol to the MoU and issues related to immigration, custom, visa procedure, security arrangement among others. It was agreed that both sides will share information on the above so as to finalise the Protocol with a view to operationalise the bus service at the earliest.