

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3249
ANSWERED ON:11.02.2014
VISA NORMS FOR PAKISTANI NATIONALS
Abdulrahman Shri

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that obtaining visa by Pakistani nationals to visit India is cumbersome and in most of the cases, it is virtually impossible to fulfil the requirements;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to simplify the said guidelines; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (d) Grant of visa to Pakistani nationals is governed by the provision of the Visa Agreement signed between the Governments of India and Pakistan in September 2012, which was operationalized in December 2012. Procedure for submission of visa applications by Pakistani nationals and grant of visa has already been streamlined. As per the extant instructions, the Pakistan nationals have to apply for visa on the On Line Visa Application System. Documents to be submitted for various types of visas have been clearly laid down and these are available on the website of the High Commission of India in Islamabad. As per the information available, during 2013, the High Commission of India in Islamabad has issued 72744 visas. Further, as a part of the Visa Agreement, Government of India has operationalized Visa on Arrival for Pakistani nationals above 65 years of age crossing on foot at Attari check post with effect from April 2013. Under this facility, Visa on Arrival with single entry for 45 days stay and for visiting maximum 5 places can be granted to such Pakistani nationals.