

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4238

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009

ISSUE OF VISA TO ANTI-NATIONALS

Abdulrahman Shri ;Haque Shri Sk. Saidul;Sethi Shri Arjun Charan;Singh Shri Dushyant;Singh Shri Radha Mohan

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain irregularity on the part of the Indian Consulate in Chicago in granting multiple visa to the anti-nationals to visit India has come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the name of such persons to whom visa have been granted by the Indian Embassies/High Commissions/Consulates during the last three years and the current year; year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any investigations in the matter;
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken against the guilty persons in the matter; and
- (e) the effective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) David Coleman Headley, US national of Pak origin, holding Passport No. 097536400, was issued five year Business Visa No.Z314473 on 18th July 2007.

Tahawwur Rana Hussain, Canadian national of Pak origin, holding Passport No. JV533373 issued on 3rd March 2006 valid up to 3rd March 2011, was issued one year Business Visa No. AF232384 on 31 October 2008.

Samraz Rana Akhtar (wife of Tahawwur Rana Hussain), a Canadian national of Pak origin, holding Passport No. WB694622 issued on 9th August 2007 valid up to 8th August 2012, was issued five year Tourist Visa No. AF232383 on 31st October 2008.

Heads of Indian Mission and Posts in the USA have the discretion to grant visas to US and Canadian citizens of Pakistani origin, according to the extant guidelines of the Ministry of Home Affairs. All the three visas have since been cancelled. The entire process of issuances of visas to Mr. David Coleman Headley, Mr. Tahawwur Rana Hussain and Mrs. Samraz Rana Akhtar is being enquired into. The policy for issue of visas to all foreigners of Pakistani origin is under review.