

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 18.11.2010
ANSWERED ON
VISA ON ARRIVAL FACILITY BY SRI LANKA .

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Shri Ishwar Singh

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

- (a) whether Sri Lanka is considering withdrawal of Visa on arrival facility presently enjoyed by Indian citizens;
- (b) whether Sri Lanka has alleged that this facility is being misused by Indian unskilled labour and vendors;
- (c) whether India has not yet offered this facility to Sri Lankan citizen on reciprocal basis; and
- (d) whether according to Sri Lankan authorities, Indians visiting Colombo misuse this facility by carrying bagfuls of cheap goods which have flooded the pavement markets in Colombo?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) to (d) It has been reported that Government of Sri Lanka withdrew its visa-on-arrival (VoA) facility for tourists but the facility was reinstated soon after. There have been reports in the Sri Lankan media about Indian nationals misusing the VoA facility. India has not offered the VoA facility to Sri Lankan citizens.