

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.338
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2018

PERMISSION FOR VISITING PAKISTAN

338. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is mandatory to get prior permission for central Ministers and Ministry's in the states/MPs to visit Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the nodal authority competent to accord such permission;
- (c) whether any advisory is given to the Ministers who visit Pakistan;
- (d) the details of permission accorded during each of the last three years;
- (e) whether any complaints have been received against Ministers/MPs/Ex MPs for indulging in anti-National activities and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

- (a) It is mandatory for Ministers of Central Government and Ministers in the states/MPs to seek clearance from political angle for going to any country, including Pakistan.
- (b) The Ministry of External Affairs examines and accords clearance from political angle for all visits outside India, including Pakistan.
- (c) Delegations are advised to coordinate with respective Missions abroad, in this case with the High Commission of India in Islamabad.
- (d) List of Ministers, MPs and Ministers in the States who visited Pakistan since 30 November 2015 is attached herewith at **Annexure**.
- (e) As per available records, no complaints of anti-national activities involving our delegations have been received by the High Commission of India in Islamabad during the period of their visits.
- (f) Not applicable.

Annexure

Sl. No	Date	Dignitaries	Purpose	Remarks
1.	09.12.2015	External Affair Minister, Smt Sushma Swaraj	Heart of Asia Conference	Multilateral event
2.	04.08.2016	Home Minister, Shri Rajnath Singh	7th SAARC Home Ministers meeting	Multilateral event
3.	16-18.08.2016	Shri Kalikash Narayan Singh Deo, MP(LS) Shri Devji Mansingram Patel, MP(LS) Ms. Divya Spandana, MP(LS)	1st SAARC Young Parliamentarians Conference on Peace and Harmony for Development	Multilateral event
4.	March, 2017	Dr. Shashi Tharoor, MP(LS) Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, MP(LS) Shri Swapan Dasgupta, MP(RS)	Meeting of Asian Parliament Assembly(APA)	Multilateral event
5.	18.08.2018	Shri Navjot Singh Sidhu, Punjab Minister for Local Government, Tourism & Cultural Affairs	To attend the oath taking ceremony of Prime Minister Imran Khan.	Private visit
6.	28.11.2018	Smt.Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Minister of Food Processing Industries. Shri.Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister for State for Housing and Urban Affairs	Groundbreaking ceremony of Kartarpur Sahib Corridor on Pakistan side of the International border	Government of India representative to the ground breaking ceremony
7.	28.11.2018	Shri Navjot Singh Sidhu, Punjab Minister for Local Government, Tourism & Cultural Affairs.	Groundbreaking ceremony of Kartarpur Sahib Corridor on Pakistan side of the International border	Private visit
