

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1991
ANSWERED ON- 08/08/2024

REMOVAL OF SERVICE FEE FOR USING SRI KARTARPUR SAHIB CORRIDOR

1991. SHRI RAGHAV CHADHA

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

- (a) whether Government has details on the number of pilgrims catered by Sri Kartarpur Sahib Corridor over the last three years;
- (b) whether Government plans on easing the passport norms for the pilgrims, especially those belonging to rural areas;
- (c) whether Government has planned to make intervention to reduce or remove the service fee of US \$20 being charged by Pakistan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) The number of pilgrims from India who visited Gurudwara Shri Darbar Sahib Kartarpur in Pakistan in last three years is as below:

Year	No. of pilgrims
2021	10,025
2022	86,097
2023	96,555

(b) The bilateral agreement signed between India and Pakistan on 24 October 2019 regarding Sri Kartarpur Sahib Corridor mandates the pilgrims to travel on a valid passport.

(c & d) The Government of India has consistently urged the Government of Pakistan that in deference to the wishes of the pilgrims, it should not levy any fee or charge on the pilgrims who visit Gurudwara Shri Darbar Sahib Kartarpur through the Sri Kartarpur Sahib Corridor. Pakistan, however, continues to levy a fee on every pilgrim for each visit.
