### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2396 TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.11.2016

#### **VISA PROCESS FOR PAKISTANIS**

#### 2396. SHRI V. ELUMALAI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to expedite the visa process for Pakistani citizens and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Indian High Commission has taken up this issue with the department concerned to expedite clearance; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

#### **ANSWER**

## THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI M. J. AKBAR)

- (a) Government has a well defined visa policy, including for Pakistani nationals. Appropriate visa is issued to a Pakistani national in accordance with that policy and applicable guidelines.
- (b) & (c) Yes, the High Commission of India in Islamabad takes up the matter of expediting the necessary processes for issuance of visas with concerned Indian authorities, as and when required. These include visitors in various categories like pilgrimage, business and medical treatment.

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