

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3459**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 08, AUGUST, 2017 / SHRAVANA 17, 1939 (SAKA)

VISA NORMS FOR PAKISTAN

3459. SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has relaxed business visa norms for Pakistan, which is valid for three years from one year earlier, and businessmen would be able to visit up to 15 places and proposes to launch an India Business Card for the business community in SAARC countries and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the intelligence agencies had expressed apprehension over easing visa restrictions for businessmen from Pakistan and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the India Business Card will have a special logo and will be given only to businessmen of high repute and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Pakistan businessmen would also be allowed in the manufacturing sector and given a green signal to open factories in India and if so, the details of the modalities worked out so far in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a): Multiple entry Business Visa upto 3 years can be issued to Pakistan nationals of assured financial standing and credentials with visits restricted upto 15 places (excluding Restricted/Prohibited/Protected Areas). The India Business Card is issued to those businessmen from SAARC

countries who are eligible for issuance of multiple entry business visa for a period of three years or more.

(b): There is no objection to the criteria/ guidelines for issuing above referred business visa and Business Card to the businessmen from Pakistan.

(c): India Business Card has a special logo and is given to those businessmen from SAARC countries who are eligible for multiple entry Business Visa for three years or more.

(d): As per exiting FDI policy, a citizen of Pakistan or an entity incorporated in Pakistan can invest, only under the Government route, in sectors/activities other than defence, space and atomic energy and sectors/activities prohibited for foreign investment.
