

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3177
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2018

VISA TO JASPAL ATWAL

3177. SHRI KODUKUNNIL SURESH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government is aware of the fact that a convicted Khalistani terrorist Jaspal Atwal was issued a visa to enter India despite being blacklisted;
- (b) If so, whether the Government has launched an investigation into the matter; and
- (c) If so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) Yes. Jaspal Atwal was issued a valid visa to enter India. He was removed from black list in 2017.

(b) & (c) Government of India has a conscious policy of outreach to the Indian Diaspora, including misguided elements who in the past may have harboured anti-India sentiments which they have since renounced. There are well established procedures for grant of visa to foreign travellers which were followed for grant of visa to Jaspal Atwal.
