

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1425  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2018**

**CONSULAR ACCESS**

1425. SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a prescribed format in which the Embassy/High Commission has to apply for consular access and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the time taken for an embassy to receive permission for consular access and duration of its validity; and
- (c) the list of embassies that have been granted access to Indian nationals via consular access from January 2017 to June 2018?

**ANSWER**

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

(a)&(b) Indian Embassies/High Commissions/Consulates located in foreign countries seeking consular access to visit Indian nationals in prisons/detention centres send a request to the Ministry of foreign Affairs/Nodal Authority of the country concerned through a Note Verbale. The request includes the name of the Indian nationals to be visited and the place of detention as well as the name (s)/designation(s) of the Consular Officers of the Mission/Post. The consular access permission is granted as soon as possible, valid for a single visit.

(c) With a view to ensuring the welfare of the Indian nationals in prisons/detention centres abroad, our Missions/Posts seek consular access to visit them on a regular basis. This is a normal activity and no centralized list of such instances of consular access is maintained.

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