

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-954
ANSWERED ON-17.07.2014
Hindu families coming from Pakistan

954 . Shri Lal Sinh Vadodia

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Hindu families from Pakistan are still coming to India;
- (b) if so, whether Government has sought any information from the Pakistan Government; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) Government has been coming across instances of members of minority communities in Pakistan, including Hindus, entering India on valid visas and not going back to Pakistan on the grounds of religious persecution. Representations have also been received from some of them for allowing extension of their visas and also for permitting them to apply for Long Term Visa (LTV) to stay in India.

(b) & (c) Though the 'Simla Agreement' of July 1972 between India and Pakistan specifically provides for non-interference in each others' internal affairs, nevertheless, based on reports of persecution of minority groups in Pakistan, Government has taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan. In its response the Government of Pakistan has been stating that it was fully cognizant of the situation and looked after the welfare of all its citizens, and particularly of its minority community.
