

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3117  
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2005  
VISA RELAXATION BY PANAMA  
Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu)

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Panama has announced relaxation in visa for Indians, as reported in the Hindi Daily `The Hindustan` dated November 19, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the criteria fixed for the said relaxation; and
- (d) the number of persons of Indian origin likely to benefited as a result of it?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

- a) Yes Sir.
- b) Under an exchange of letters signed between the Foreign Minister of Panama and Minister of State for External Affairs of India on 18th November, 2005, Panama has agreed to issue one year multiple entry business visa for Indians. The visa provides for maximum stay of 30 days during each visit.
- c) The business visa applicant should meet the requirements established by the competent authority of Panama. The Embassy of Panama will issue visas after satisfying themselves about the credentials of the company and the purpose of the visit.
- d) Indian businessmen interested in trade and business with Panama stand to benefit from this.