

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:393  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2006  
AMRITSAR LAHORE BUS SERVICE  
Khanna Shri Avinash Rai

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

- (a) Whether the Government proposes to set up a Visa Centre in Amritsar to solve the problems of security clearance for Amritsar-Lahore Bus Service;
- (b) If so, the time by which the said Visa Centre is likely to be set up;
- (c) If not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) Whether the Government also proposes to increase the number of Buses on Amritsar-Lahore route;
- (e) If so, the time by which this is likely to be increased;
- (f) Whether the bus service is economically viable; and
- (g) If not, the loss incurred by the Government in this regard ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred in parts (a) to (g) in reply of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 393 to be answered on 23.08.2006 regarding "Amritsar – Lahore Bus Service".

- (a) There have been suggestions from some quarters in India for opening visa office of Pakistan in Amritsar. However, at present there is no such proposal.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Currently, both India and Pakistan are engaged in the opening of the respective Consulates-General in Karachi and Mumbai.
- (d) There is no such proposal.
- (e) Does not arise.
- (f)- (g) The Amritsar-Lahore bus service which was inaugurated on 24 January 2006 has incurred a net loss of Rs.4, 40,653 (till 31 July 2006).