

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2021

ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014

STAPLED VISA

Mohan Shri P. C.;Rao Shri Rayapati Sambasiva;Thota Shri Narasimham

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

- (a) whether the issue of the issuance of stapled visa by China to the residents of Arunachal Pradesh was raised with the Foreign Minister of that country during his recent visit;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Foreign Minister of China is reported to have justified the issuance of such visas as a 'gesture of goodwill';
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes further consultations with the Chinese side in the matter and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) The Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi visited India on June 8-9, 2014 as the Special Envoy of the President of China. The External Affairs Minister Smt. Sushma Swaraj held extensive discussions with him. The discussions were comprehensive and substantive and various issues of significance were raised and discussed in a frank and candid manner.

(c) to (e) The issuance of visas by India and China is guided by the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding on Simplifying Visa Procedures between the two governments signed in June 2003, which is being implemented by both sides. Government's position that there should be no discrimination against visa applicants of Indian nationality on grounds of domicile and ethnicity has been clearly conveyed to the Chinese Government on several occasions and at the highest level.