

(b) the list of Indian Non-Governmental Organisations therein;

(c) whether these organisations have gone there independently or with the consent of Government of India or that of China; and

(d) the name of the works these organisations are engaged in?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) The diplomatic representation of India in China comprises of the Embassy of India, Beijing and its Consulates General at Hong Kong, Shanghai and Guangzhou. There are no Indian Non-Governmental Organisations working in China.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Issuing of passport for Haj

3749. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prominent separatist leaders are being issued passports for visits to different countries including Pakistan;

(b) whether it is also a fact that passports are denied to many persons desirous of performing Haj on the ground that they are related to a low rung separatist political worker or a dead militant or even a surrendered militant; and

(c) if so, the rationale behind this policy and whether Government contemplates any change in this policy to provide travel documents to all aspirants for Haj pilgrimage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) Yes.

(b) No. Haj passports valid for eight months for Saudi Arabia only were issued to Haj pilgrims without any police verification, provided there was nothing adverse against the persons in the system.

(c) If a person applies for ordinary passport in the normal course, the application is subjected to usual police verification. However, if application is recommended by the Haj Committee on the basis of draw of lots among Haj pilgrim applicants, the application is processed without police verification. During 2009, almost all Haj pilgrims whose names were recommended by the Haj Committee were issued Haj passports.