



*High Commission of the  
Islamic Republic of Pakistan  
Colombo*

No. Pol-1/1/2015

24 August 2015

Subject: **Facility of Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) by the Government of Sri Lanka to the Pakistanis.**

My dear Chief Executive,

It has been observed that Pakistani business persons and other travelers wishing to visit Sri Lanka do not apply for their Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) well on time and by providing all requisite supporting documents.

2. It is important to underscore that the government of Sri Lanka has unilaterally taken a decision for a highly liberalized visa policy which is a highly friendly gesture towards Pakistan.

3. However, it is very unfortunate that the relaxed visa policy of Sri Lanka for Pakistanis is largely misused by the drug and human traffickers and asylum seekers in the name of state and societal prosecution that not only creates highly negative perspective about the people and state institutions of Pakistan but also this situation compels Sri Lankan authorities to restrain their open visa regime for Pakistanis time and again that would result in difficulties and hardships to genuine Pakistani travelers to Sri Lanka.

4. As a result the prospective visitors, particularly belonging to major business concerns of Pakistan, approach the High Commission in large numbers with a request for intervention with the host immigration authorities for approval of ETAs.

5. It is the respect that Pakistan High Commission enjoys in Sri Lanka in general that the High Commission is able to get cooperation from Sri Lankan authorities. However, it must be stated that such frequent situations create unnecessary workload and obligations.

6. Foregoing in view, TDAP and all other concerned may kindly sensitize all business travelers to apply for ETA at least three weeks before their travel programme by providing all supporting document.

7. Cooperation of all concerned in this regard will be deeply appreciated.

*Best regards,*

Yours sincerely,

*(Signature)*  
(Dr. Sarfraz Ahmed Khan Sipra)  
Deputy High Commissioner

Mr. S.M. Muneer  
Chief Executive of TDAP,  
Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP),  
Block A, 5th Floor, Finance and Trade Center  
Sharae Faisal, Karachi

