

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2542  
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2007  
MEDICAL VISA  
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the Government issued any instructions during 2005 to all Indian missions/posts abroad regarding introduction of a new category of visa called Medical visa (M-visa) to foreigners coming to India for medical treatment;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether the said visa is being issued by all the missions/posts abroad;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether foreigners are showing interest in such a visa;
- (f) if so, the number of foreigners who visited India on such visa since its introduction till date;
- (g) whether the Government proposes to liberalise the policy in regard to issue of M-visa keeping in view the demand; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (h): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (h) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2542 FOR 04.12.2007

(a) to (h) A new category of visa "Medical Visa" (M-Visa) has been introduced vide this Ministry's circular No.346 dated 21.6.2005. It is granted to foreigners who have sought preliminary medical advice from their country of origin/residence and have been advised to go for specialized medical treatment. The Indian Missions/Posts abroad scrutinize the medical documents to satisfy themselves about the bonafide purpose for which medical visa is being requested. The initial validity of medical visa is for one year or the period of treatment, whichever is less. It can be extended for a further period of one year by the State Governments/FRROs on production of medical certificate from reputed/recognized/specialized hospitals in India. Further extensions can be granted by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the recommendations of the State Governments/FRROs supported by appropriate medical documents. The visa is valid for a maximum of three entries during the year. Foreigners coming to India on medical visa are required to get themselves registered with the concerned FRROs/FROs within 14 days from the date of their arrival in India.

Necessary instructions have been issued to all Indian Missions/ Posts abroad for grant of M-visa to all foreigners who are eligible for it, subject to usual checks. A large number of foreigners are availing the M-visa for various kinds of specialized medical treatments. There is no proposal before the Government to further liberalize the policy for issue of M-visa.