

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:224
ANSWERED ON:03.07.2009
PROMOTION OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH TOURISM
Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Ramasubbu Shri S.

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any plan for promoting medical and health tourism in the country;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) the number of persons visited India on medical tourism, its rate of growth and foreign exchange earned from it during each of the last three years and the projections made for next three years; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote this sector through India tourism offices abroad and to improve the facilities for visiting foreigners on medical tourism?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM(KUMARI SELJA)

(a), (b), (c) and (d): Government of India has taken various measures to promote Medical Tourism in the country. These include extending financial support under the Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme to Medical Tourism Service Providers and Medical Tourism Facilitators for promotion of Medical Tourism in overseas markets, introduction of an additional category of 'Medical Visa' for foreign tourists coming to India for medical treatment, production of publicity material on Medical Tourism and dissemination of information on Medical Tourism through the India Tourism Offices and on the website of the Ministry of Tourism. The specific promotions are also being undertaken through India Tourism Offices in overseas markets by participation in various international fairs.

Ministry of Tourism does not collect separate information on medical tourist traffic to India.