GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3371 ANSWERED ON:30.11.2010 ADVANCE PASSENGER INFORMATION SYSTEM Sivakumar Alias J.K. Ritheesh Shri K.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the success of Advance Passenger Information System in the counry;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to extend the same to all the international airports of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(d) whether the Government has also assessed the success of Visa on Arrival Scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3371 FOR 30.11.2010.

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) in Phase-I has been introduced at 6 International Airports namely Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Cochin w.e.f. 01.4.2008. Under APIS all airline operators flying into India are required to provide passengers particulars electronically in the prescribed format, within 15 minutes of their take off from the port outside India, in flat file to the concerned Immigration authorities in India. In phase – II, APIS is proposed to be implemented at all the 26 international airports in the country in a centralized mode. To facilitate the operationalization of APIS at all the international airports in the country, NIC has undertaken the requisite action to put in place the network infrastructure. APIS shall be implemented in a centralized mode across all the international airports during the financial year 2011-12.

(d) & (e): Yes, Madam. The Government has w.e.f. 1.1.2010, introduced a "Tourist Visa-on-Arrival" scheme for citizens of five countries viz. Finland, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand and Singapore at four International airports in the country, viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata. Assessment of success of the scheme is done periodically by Ministry of Home Affairs. The Scheme is running smoothly and efforts have been made to make the scheme more popular and effective. The Stakeholder Ministries / Departments / Agencies have been directed to improve the requisite infrastructure / facilities for successful implementation of Tourist Visa-on-Arrival scheme.