

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:724
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2011
MEDICAL AND HEALTH TOURISM
Singh Shri Ravneet;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to promote medical and health tourism in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of proposals received and sanctioned in this regard for seeking central financial assistance, State-wise; and
- (d) the estimated revenue likely to be earned therefrom through domestic as well as foreign tourists?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTR OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED)

(a) to (b): The Ministry of Tourism has initiated several measures to promote Medical and Health Tourism which include promotion in overseas markets and production of publicity materials like brochure, CDs and films etc. and their distribution in target markets.

A workshop on promotion of Wellness Tourism was organized in New Delhi in association with Department of AYUSH, Government of India and National Board for Accreditation of Hospitals and Healthcare Services on 15.02.2011.

(c): Under the Market Development Assistance Scheme (MDA) of the Ministry of Tourism, financial support is provided only to approved Medical Tourism Service Providers, i.e. representatives of hospitals accredited by Joint Commission for International Accredited Hospitals (JCI) and National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH) and Medical Tourism facilitators (Travel Agents/ Tour Operators) approved by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India and engaged in Medical Tourism subject to adherence to scheme guidelines and availability of funds.

(d): The foreign exchange earnings from tourism for the country as a whole including medical tourism during 2008, 2009 and 2010 are estimated at 50730 crore, 54960 crore and 64889 crore respectively.