

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1654
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012
MOU WITH SRI LANKA
Pakkirappa Shri S.

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is growth in number of tourist coming from Sri Lanka;
- (b) if so, the number of tourists from Sri Lanka visited India during each of the last three years;
- (c) whether both the countries have signed an MoU on cooperation in the field of tourism;
- (d) if so, the details of the clauses of the said MoU so far implemented by both the countries; and
- (e) the extent to which the tourism between both the countries has registered growth during the last three years and the current year?

Answer

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

(a)and(b): The details of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India from Sri Lanka during 2008, 2009 and 2010 are given below:

FTAs in India from Sri Lanka

Year	2008	2009	2010
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FTAs	218805	239995	266515
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(c)and(d): A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Cooperation in the field of Tourism between the India and Sri Lanka was signed on 23.01.2004.

A 3 member group (2 scholars and one Tour Operator) from Sri Lanka visited India under the hospitality scheme to attend the International Buddhist Conclave held in February 2010.

Ministry of Tourism (MoT) regularly sends brochures and publicity material to the Indian High Commission in Colombo, Sri Lanka for promotion of tourism to India.

MOT also organized a Road Show coinciding with the arrival of the Queen's Baton Relay for the Commonwealth Games in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 17th June, 2010, in collaboration with the Indian High Commission.

(e): The number of FTAs in India, from Sri Lanka, increased at a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10.37% during 2008 to 2010. The country – wise break up of FTAs for the year 2011 are not available.

The number of Indian Nationals departure from India, to Sri Lanka, decreased at a negative CAGR of 11.20 % during 2007 to 2009. The country – wise break up of Indian Nationals departure from India for the year 2010 and the total number for the year 2011 are not available.