

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:79

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009

RELAXED VISA PROCEDURES

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

- (a) whether the Government is allowing relaxed tourist friendly visa procedures for tourists visiting destinations like Goa;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are reports/instances of national security having been compromised due to relaxed visa procedures for tourists;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the details of the temporary landing facility for 15 days (TLF) granted at Goa airport during the last three years and the current year?

**Answer**

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

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

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 79 FOR 24.11.2009 REGARDING "RELAXED VISA PROCEDURES".

(a) & (b): No specific relaxation in visa procedure for tourists visiting destinations like Goa has been introduced by the government in the recent past. Temporary Landing Facility (TLF) upto a maximum period of 15 days is provided to a foreigner who arrives in India without Visa in an emergent situation. This facility is available at all airports and sea ports including Goa. In addition, Government had in August, 2003 made a provision for issuing Collective Landing Permits (CLP) to foreign tourists in groups of 4 or more sponsored by recognized/approved Indian travel agencies and arriving by air or sea. CLPs are granted for a pre-drawn itinerary for a period not exceeding 60 days. CLPs are granted on a written request from the travel agencies to the Immigration Officers with full personal and passport details of the group members, itinerary and undertaking to conduct the group as per the itinerary; and an assurance that no individual would be allowed to drop out from the group at any place.

(c) & (d): No instance of national security having been compromised due to issuance of Collective Landing Permits to bonafide tourists has been reported.

(e): As per information available, the Temporary Landing Facility granted at Goa Airport during the last 3 years and in the current year are given below:-

Year	No. of passengers	No. of crew	Total
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2006	142	1397	1539
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2007	216	3956	4172
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2008	1097	3685	4782
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2009	914	2385	3299
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(Till 19.11.2009)