

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1277

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2013

FOREIGN TOURISTS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

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

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware that several tourists coming to India on tourist visas are involved in coverage of events/journalistic activities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) Instances of foreigners coming on Tourist Visas and covering events/ journalistic activities has come to the notice of the Government. Tourist Visa is not the appropriate visa for such activities by the foreigners. As per extant instructions, Tourist Visa is issued to foreigners who do not have a residence or occupation in India and whose sole objective of visiting India is recreation, sightseeing, casual visit to meet friends and relatives etc. and no other activity is permissible on a Tourist Visa. Instructions have been issued by the Government to all State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations and immigration authorities on 3rd January, 2013 reiterating the above position and advising them to ensure that no other activity is permitted on a Tourist Visa.