

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6032

ANSWERED ON:03.05.2013

STRENGTHENING OF TOURISM TIES WITH VIETNAM

Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

**Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is any proposal to strengthen tourism ties with Vietnam both bilaterally and within the framework of Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any delegation of the Government has visited Vietnam in the recent past;
- (c) if so, the details of issues discussed and decisions arrived at during the said visit;
- (d) whether any agreement has been signed by both the countries during the said visit, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the issues on which both the countries have agreed for cooperation?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI)

(a): India-Vietnam relations have been exceptionally friendly and cordial for more than 50 years. Relations between the two countries were elevated to the level of 'Strategic Partnership' during the visit of Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung to India in July 2007. Vietnam continues to be a valuable partner for India both bilaterally and within ASEAN. Vietnam is an important source market for India Tourism considering their strong interest in Buddhist Heritage. The Ministry of Tourism has signed an MoU between India and the member states of ASEAN in January, 2012 in Indonesia.

(b): Dr. K. Chiranjeevi, Hon'ble Minister of State for Tourism (IC) visited Vietnam from 3-4 January 2013 for attending the commemorative events organised to mark the 20th Anniversary of the India-ASEAN Dialogue Partnership.

(c): During the visit, Hon'ble Minister of State for Tourism (IC) held bilateral discussions with representatives of the Vietnam National Tourism Administration for enhancing tourism traffic between the two countries and also participated in tourism promotional events.

(d): No agreement was signed during the visit of the Hon'ble Minister of State for Tourism (IC) to Vietnam in January 2013.

(e): Both sides have agreed to step up cooperation in order to promote tourism. They also stressed the importance of establishing direct flight connections between India and Vietnam.