

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1732  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013  
TOURIST VISA ON ARRIVAL SCHEME  
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**Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:**

- (a) the salient features of scheme of Tourist Visa-On-Arrival (TVOA) launched by the Government for foreign tourists;
- (b) the names of countries and airports for which such facility is available at present along with the reaction of the Government for extension of the scheme to more countries and airports;
- (c) the number of visa on arrival issued during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (d) whether the Government also has any proposal to allow group visa on arrival for foreign tourists;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented; and
- (f) the impact of the scheme in increasing arrival of foreign tourists in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) and (b): The salient features of the Scheme of Tourist Visa on Arrival (TVOA) are:

- (i) The TVOA is allowed for a maximum validity of 30 days with single entry facility.
- (ii) The TVOA is available to foreign nationals arriving from Japan, Singapore, Finland, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Philippines, Myanmar and Indonesia at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata Airports. With effect from 15.08.2013 it has also been introduced at the Kochi, Thiruvananthapuram, Hyderabad and Bangalore airports.
- (iii) The fee for the TVOA is US \$ 60/- or equivalent amount in Indian rupees per passenger (including children).
- (iv) The TVOA is allowed for a maximum of two times in a calendar year to a foreigner with a minimum gap of two months between each visit. TVOA shall be non-extendable and non-convertible.
- (v) Tourists from the above mentioned countries may also avail of TVOA for up to 30 days for medical treatment, for casual business or to visit friends/relatives, etc.
- (vi) The TVOA facility is not applicable to the holders of Diplomatic/Official Passports. Further, TVOA shall not be granted to the foreigners who have permanent residence or occupation in India. Such persons can visit India on normal visa, as applicable. The extension of the Tourist Visa on Arrival facility to the other countries and the airports within India is an on-going process based on various factors like market trends, security concerns etc.

(c): The number of Visas on Arrival (VoA) issued during 2010, 2011, 2012 and January to June 2013 were 6549, 12761, 16084 and 9328, respectively.

(d) and (e): The Government of India has amended its Visa Manual to extend the collective landing permits facility with effect from 1st April 2013. The foreign tourists in groups of four or more arriving by air or sea and sponsored by Indian travel agencies approved by the Ministry of Tourism and with a pre-drawn itinerary will be granted Collective Landing Permit for a period not exceeding 60 days, with multiple entry facilities. In order to avail of this facility the tourists or travel agencies shall mandatorily fill in an application online.

(f): The provision of Collective Landing Permits will encourage the foreign tourists to plan their travel to India in a short notice and therefore India will be able to get last minute travellers who hitherto where travelling to other destinations