

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5386
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2015
CHECK ON MISUSE OF TOURIST VISA
De(Nag) Dr. (Smt.) Ratna

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the efforts made by the Government to get visa by foreign tourists on arrival; and
- (b) the mechanism in place to keep a check on misuse of tourist visas in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a): Tourist Visa on Arrival enabled by Electronic Travel Authorisation now e-Tourist Visa has been implemented at 9 Airports (Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi and Goa) for 44 countries w.e.f. 27.11.2014 in first phase. Sri Lanka has been included as 45th country w.e.f 14.04.2015. The inclusion of additional countries and Airports is a continuous process, which is done after appropriate consultation with all stake holders of Government of India.

(b): As per Chapter 3(3.1) of Visa Manual the sole objective of visiting India on Tourist Visa is recreation, sightseeing, casual visit to meet friends or relatives etc. and no other purpose/activity. The misuse of facility extended liable to apprehension, deportation and further black list of foreigner to visit India.