

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †3221**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 01ST JANUARY, 2019 / PAUSHA 11, 1940 (SAKA)

TOURIST VISA

†3221. SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps of the Government to further simplify the process of issuing of tourist visa;**
- (b) the total number of tourist visas granted for Bihar; and**
- (c) the countries with which the Government has signed agreements for issuing tourist visas?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)**

(a) Multiple entry Tourist visa for a period of 10 years has been extended to nationals of USA, Canada and Japan. Multiple entry tourist visas for a period of 5 years as a default option has also been extended to nationals of more than 160 countries. Government has also extended the e-Visa facility under 5 sub-categories i.e. e-Tourist Visa, e-Business Visa, e-Medical Visa, e-Medical Attendant Visa and e-Conference Visa to the nationals of 166 countries for entry through 26 designated international airports and 5 major seaports in India. Visa-on-arrival is granted to nationals of Japan and South Korea for business, tourism, conference and medical purposes.

(b) State-wise information of tourist visas issued is not maintained.

(c) Granting of visa is a sovereign and unilateral decision of the receiving country. Grant of e-visa facility by India is expected to encourage other countries to reciprocate and facilitate travel of Indian passport holders to their countries.