

**Growth of 28.1 % in tourist availing of “Tourist Visa on Arrival”**

**(VoA) Scheme : January-September, 2013**

As a facilitative measure to attract more foreign tourists to India, the Government launched the “Visa on Arrival” (VoA) Scheme in January 2010 for citizens of five countries, viz. Finland, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand and Singapore, visiting India for tourism purposes. The Government extended this Scheme to the citizens of six more countries, namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines, Laos and Myanmar in January 2011. The following are the important highlights of VoAs issued during September, 2013.

- (i) During the month of September 2013, a total of 1,683 VoAs were issued under this Scheme as compared to 1,404 VoAs during the month of September 2012, registering a growth of 19.9%.
- (ii) During the period January to September 2013, a total number of 13,859 VoAs were issued as compared to 10,816 VoAs during the corresponding period of 2012 registering a growth of 28.1%.
- (iii) The number of VoAs issued under this scheme during September 2013 for nationals of the eleven countries was Japan (578), New Zealand (325), Indonesia (248), the Philippines (228), Singapore (219), Finland (47), Vietnam (16), Myanmar (8), Luxembourg (7), Cambodia (6) and Laos (1).
- (iv) The number of VoAs issued under the Scheme during January to September 2013 was Japan (4,868), New Zealand (2,490), Indonesia (1,936), the Philippines (1,880), Singapore (1,557), Finland (693), Vietnam (142), Luxembourg (109), Myanmar (86), Cambodia (84) and Laos (14).
- (v) During the period January to September 2013, the highest number of VoAs were issued at New Delhi airport (7,830) followed by Mumbai (2,892), Chennai (2,029), Kolkata (968), Bangalore (72), Kochi (33), Hyderabad (23) and Trivandrum(12).

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