

Growth of 29.4% in tourist availing of “Tourist Visa on Arrival”

(VoA) Scheme : January-August, 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 August, 2013.

- (i) During the month of August 2013, a total number of 1,694 VoAs were issued under this Scheme as compared to 1,750 VoAs during the month of August 2012, registering a negative growth of 3.2%.
- (ii) During the period January to August 2013, a total number of 12,176 VoAs were issued as compared to 9,412 VoAs during corresponding period of 2012 registering a growth of 29.4%.
- (iii) The number of VoAs issued under this scheme during August 2013 for nationals of the eleven countries were Japan (678), New Zealand (257), the Philippines (249), Indonesia (234), Singapore (175), Finland (43), Luxembourg (23), Vietnam (16), Myanmar (13), Cambodia (3) and Laos (3).
- (iv) The number of VoAs issued under the Scheme during January to August 2013 were Japan (4,290), New Zealand (2,165), Indonesia (1,688), the Philippines (1,652), Singapore (1,338), Finland (646), Vietnam (126), Luxembourg (102), Cambodia (78), Myanmar (78) and Laos (13).
- (v) During the period January to August 2013, the highest number of VoAs were issued at New Delhi (6,906) followed by Mumbai (2,549), Chennai (1,832), Kolkata (846), Bangalore (17), Hyderabad (12), Kochi (10) and Trivandrum(4).
