

**Growth of 26.2 % in tourist availing of “Tourist Visa on Arrival”**

**(VoA) Scheme : January-December, 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 December, 2013.

- (i) During the month of December 2013, a total of 2,700 VoAs were issued under this Scheme as compared to 2,181 VoAs during the month of December 2012, registering a growth of 23.8%.
- (ii) During the period January to December 2013, a total number of 20,294 VoAs were issued as compared to 16,084 VoAs during the corresponding period of 2012 registering a growth of 26.2%.
- (iii) The number of VoAs issued under this scheme during December 2013 for nationals of the eleven countries was Japan (744), New Zealand (619), Singapore (416), Indonesia (358), the Philippines (352), Finland (141), Vietnam (24), Cambodia (20), Luxembourg (19), Myanmar (5) and Laos (2).
- (iv) The number of VoAs issued under the Scheme during January to December 2013 was Japan (6,448), New Zealand (3,968), the Philippines (2,967), Indonesia (2,758), Singapore (2,486), Finland (1,030), Vietnam (205), Myanmar (148), Luxembourg (145), Cambodia (120) and Laos (19).
- (v) During the period January to December 2013, the highest number of VoAs were issued at New Delhi airport (11,046) followed by Mumbai (4,206), Chennai (2,815), Kolkata (1,351), Bangalore (380), Kochi (229), Hyderabad (165) and Trivandrum (102).

\*\*\*\*\*