

## Progress of "Tourist Visa on Arrival" (VoA) Scheme : August, 2012

As a facilitative measure to attract more foreign tourists to India, Government launched a Scheme of "Visa on Arrival" (VoA) from January 2010 for citizens of five countries, viz. Finland, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand and Singapore, visiting India for tourism purposes. The Government has extended this Scheme for the citizens of six more countries, namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Philippines, Laos and Myanmar from January 2011. Following are the important highlights of VoAs issued during August, 2012.

- (i) During the month of August 2012, a total number of 1750 VoAs were issued under this Scheme as compared to 920 VoAs during the month of August 2011 registering a positive growth of 90.2%.
- (ii) During the period January-August 2012, a total number of 9412 VoAs were issued as compared to 7514 VoAs during corresponding period of 2011 registering a positive growth of 25.3%.
- (iii) The number of VOAs issued under this scheme, during August 2012 for nationals of the eleven countries were Japan (693), Philippines (349), Indonesia (255), New Zealand (201), Singapore (162), Finland (42), Vietnam (20), Luxembourg (10), Cambodia (10), Myanmar (8) and Laos (0).
- (iv) The number of VoAs issued under this scheme, during January-August 2012 were Japan (2564), New Zealand (1789), Indonesia (1514), Philippines (1442), Singapore (1178), Finland (618), Vietnam (117), Myanmar (62), Cambodia (62), Luxembourg (58) and Laos (7).
- (v) During the period January-August 2012, the maximum number of VoAs were issued at Delhi airport (5489), followed by Mumbai (1981), Chennai (1365) and Kolkata (577).

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