

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

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, 2012.

- (i) During the month of December 2012, a total number of 2,181 VoAs were issued under this Scheme as compared to 1,640 VoAs during the month of December 2011, registering a growth of 33.0%.
- (ii) During the period January-December 2012, a total number of 16,084 VoAs were issued as compared to 12,761 VoAs during the corresponding period of 2011, registering a growth of 26.0%.
- (iii) The number of VoAs issued under this scheme during December 2012 for nationals of the eleven countries were Japan (691), New Zealand (505), Indonesia (310), Singapore (256), the Philippines (239), Finland (104), Vietnam (34), Myanmar (20), Cambodia (13), Luxembourg (9) and Laos (0).
- (iv) The number of VoAs issued under this scheme during January-December 2012 were Japan (4,604), New Zealand (3,150), the Philippines (2,444), Indonesia (2,426), Singapore (1,974), Finland (914), Vietnam (186), Cambodia (157), Luxembourg (110), Myanmar (109) and Laos (10).
- (v) During the period January-December 2012, the highest number of VoAs were issued at Delhi airport (9,596), followed by Mumbai (3,276), Chennai (2,273) and Kolkata (939).

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