

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.315**  
ANSWERED ON 20.07.2021

**STATUS OF MEDICAL TOURISM IN INDIA**

315. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA:

Will the Minister of **TOURISM** be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of overseas medical tourists who visited the country in the last four years, country-wise;
- (b) the State-wise number of foreign medical tourists who visited India during the last four years;
- (c) the revenue generated via the aforementioned visits; and
- (d) further steps being undertaken to promote wellness and medical tourism to increase tourist inflow?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): The details of percentage distribution of foreign tourists arrivals from leading countries for medical purpose during 2017 to 2020 are given in **Annexure-I**.

(b) & (c): Ministry of Tourism, Government of India does not maintain data on State/UT wise visits of foreign tourists according to purpose and revenue generated from these visits.

(d): Details of steps being undertaken to promote wellness and medical tourism to increase tourist inflow is given in **Annexure-II**.

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**ANNEXURE- I****STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.315 ANSWERED ON 20.07.2021 REGARDING STATUS OF MEDICAL TOURISM IN INDIA**

Details of percentage distribution of foreign tourists arrivals from leading countries for medical purpose during 2017 to 2020 are given below:

<b>Nationality</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
BANGLADESH	44.79%	50.34%	57.53%	54.33%
IRAQ	9.62%	9.25%	8.07%	9.12%
MALDIVES	9.16%	2.12%	7.31%	6.06%
AFGHANISTAN	11.25%	7.31%	4.73%	8.87%
OMAN	5.69%	4.30%	3.21%	2.37%
YEMEN	2.40%	1.85%	2.39%	2.25%
SUDAN	1.40%	1.35%	1.28%	1.51%
KENYA	1.51%	1.25%	1.12%	1.12%
NIGERIA	1.12%	0.88%	1.00%	1.11%
TANZANIA	1.02%	0.82%	0.74%	0.90%
SAUDI ARABIA	0.97%	0.77%	0.73%	0.31%
SRI LANKA	0.90%	1.04%	0.58%	0.44%
MYANMAR	0.36%	0.36%	0.58%	0.69%
MAURITIUS	0.34%	0.41%	0.51%	0.60%
BAHRAIN	0.23%	0.23%	0.26%	0.21%
PAKISTAN	0.36%	0.25%	0.20%	0.16%
UNITED STATES	0.13%	2.61%	0.17%	0.22%
UNITED KINGDOM	0.15%	1.67%	0.16%	0.19%
NEPAL	0.09%	1.78%	0.10%	0.24%
TURKEY	0.02%	0.12%	0.09%	0.06%
CANADA	0.06%	0.50%	0.07%	0.10%
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.10%	0.15%	0.07%	0.11%
PHILIPPINES	0.06%	0.28%	0.07%	0.18%
KAZAKHSTAN	0.07%	0.06%	0.06%	0.06%
AUSTRALIA	0.04%	0.47%	0.05%	0.06%
MALAYSIA	0.09%	0.23%	0.05%	0.04%
SOUTH AFRICA	0.03%	0.09%	0.05%	0.04%
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	0.06%	0.21%	0.04%	0.04%
FRANCE	0.02%	0.18%	0.04%	0.05%
EGYPT	0.05%	0.09%	0.04%	0.03%
INDONESIA	0.05%	0.10%	0.04%	0.04%
GERMANY	0.02%	0.20%	0.03%	0.03%
NEW ZEALAND	0.02%	0.10%	0.02%	0.02%

CHINA	0.01%	0.12%	0.02%	0.01%
NETHERLANDS	0.02%	0.10%	0.02%	0.04%
ITALY	0.01%	0.12%	0.02%	0.01%
UKRAINE	0.02%	0.06%	0.02%	0.01%
IRAN	0.02%	0.04%	0.01%	0.01%
NORWAY	0.01%	0.03%	0.01%	0.01%
SWITZERLAND	0.01%	0.05%	0.01%	0.01%
SWEDEN	0.01%	0.03%	0.01%	0.01%
SINGAPORE	0.01%	0.34%	0.01%	0.01%
BELGIUM	0.01%	0.05%	0.01%	0.00%
THAILAND	0.00%	0.12%	0.00%	0.01%
AUSTRIA	0.00%	0.04%	0.00%	0.01%
IRELAND	0.00%	0.07%	0.00%	0.00%
DENMARK	0.01%	0.02%	0.00%	0.00%
JAPAN	0.01%	0.10%	0.00%	0.00%
FINLAND	0.00%	0.02%	0.00%	0.00%
ISRAEL	0.00%	0.03%	0.00%	0.01%
PORTUGAL	0.00%	0.12%	0.00%	0.01%
SPAIN	0.00%	0.05%	0.00%	0.00%
BRAZIL	0.00%	0.02%	0.00%	0.00%
MEXICO	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%
ARGENTINA	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%
POLAND	0.00%	0.02%	0.00%	0.00%
KOREA(ROK)	0.00%	0.07%	0.00%	0.00%
TAIWAN(PROVINCE OF CHINA)	0.00%	0.02%	0.00%	0.00%
CZECH	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%
GREECE	0.00%	0.02%	0.00%	0.00%
VIETNAM	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%
BHUTAN	0.00%	0.26%	0.00%	0.00%
Others	7.64%	6.63%	8.42%	0.25%

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## ANNEXURE- II

### STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 315 ANSWERED ON 20.07.2021 REGARDING STATUS OF MEDICAL TOURISM IN INDIA

Details of steps being undertaken to promote wellness and medical tourism to increase tourist inflow

- In order to provide dedicated institutional framework to take forward the cause of promotion of Medical Tourism, Wellness Tourism and Yoga, Ayurveda Tourism and any other format of Indian system of medicine covered by Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH), Ministry has constituted a National Medical & Wellness Tourism Board with the Hon'ble Minister (Tourism) as its Chairman. The Board works as umbrella organization that promotes this segment of tourism in an organized manner.
- Financial Assistance to Wellness Tourism Service Providers (WTSPs) and Medical Tourism Service Providers (MTSPs) under Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme (maximum Rs.2.50 lakh).
- Financial Assistance of maximum Rs.10.00 lakh on 50:50 cost sharing basis for organizing workshops/events/meets/seminars having focus on promotion of Medical & Wellness Tourism with at least 100 participants (50% of which to be foreign passport holders).
- Financial Assistance of maximum Rs.25.00 lakh on 50:50 cost sharing basis for organizing Medical & Wellness Tourism promotion shows with at least 75 participants (40% of which to be foreign buyers) in trade fairs, promotional events, roadshows and seminars.
- A film on Medical Tourism has been produced in association with BBC and is used at various platforms for promotional purposes. Medical tourism has been specifically promoted at various international platforms such as World Travel Mart, London, ITB, Berlin.
- Wellness Tourism is about travelling for primary purpose of achieving, promoting and maintaining maximum health and a sense of well-being. Most of the hotels / resorts are coming up with Ayurveda Centres. The leading tour operators have included Ayurveda in their brochures.
- Yoga / Ayurveda / Wellness is being promoted in the past years in the print, electronic, internet and outdoor medium under the Ministry of Tourism's "Incredible India Campaign".
- The Ministry of Tourism has only the role of a facilitator in terms of marketing this concept and promoting this in the key markets. Medical Tourism is regularly highlighted for promotion as part of the Incredible India Campaign in the print, electronic, online and outdoor media in India and abroad as well as at the various travel trade exhibitions overseas.
- In order to promote the Medical Tourism in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has also instituted a National Tourism Award for the category of "Best Medical Tourism Facility".
- In order to promote the Wellness Tourism in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has also instituted a National Tourism Award for the category of "Best Wellness Centre".
- Medical and medical attendant Visa has been introduced to ease the travel process of Medical Tourists. The e-Tourist visa regime has also been expanded to include medical visits as well. Indian Missions/Posts issues Medical Visa (MED) valid

for 1 year or period of treatment whichever is less to foreign national visiting India for Medical treatment in reputed/Specialized /Recognized hospitals/treatment centres in India. The treatment should be significant in nature, such as neurosurgery, heart surgery, organ transplant, joint replacement, gene therapy, and plastic surgery.

- Up to two Medical Attendant visas will be issued for people to accompany the patient Attendants/family members of patient, who are coming to India for Medical treatment, shall be granted Medical Attendant visa (MED X) co-terminus with medical Visa of the patient. Attendants should be spouse/ children or those having blood relations with the patient. Not more than two attendants may be allowed. Initial duration of the visa is one year or the period of treatment, whichever is less. Visa will be valid for maximum three entries in a year. Maximum three entries are allowed in one year.
- Government of India introduced online e-Tourist Visa for 166 countries. Further, under the liberalization and simplification of Visa regime in India, e-Visa scheme for Tourist, Business and Medical has been implemented w.e.f 01.04.2017.

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