

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3469
ANSWERED ON 20.12.2021**

FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNED THROUGH MEDICAL TOURISM

3469.DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL:

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SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE:

SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of tourists that have come to India as medical tourists during the last five years and details thereof, State-wise;**
- (b) the amount of foreign exchange earnings generated by Medical Tourism during the last five years and the details thereof, State-wise;**
- (c) the steps being taken, if any, to create awareness and attract more medical tourists to India; and**
- (d) whether the Government proposes, to create a dedicated medical tourism policy and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) & (b): The details of Foreign Tourists Arrivals (FTAs) in India on Medical purpose during 2016 to 2020 are given below:

Foreign Tourists Arrivals (FTAs) in India on Medical purpose

Year	FTAs on medical purpose (in Lakh)
2016	4.27
2017	4.95
2018	6.41
2019	6.97
2020	1.83

Source: Bureau of Immigration, Government of India

Further, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India does not maintain data on State/UTwise visits of foreign tourists according to purpose and foreign exchange earnings generated from these visits. However, the overall Foreign Exchange Earnings through tourism during 2016 to 2020 are given below:

Foreign Exchange Earnings from tourism in India

Year	FEE from tourism (in Rs. Crore)
2016 #²	154146
2017#²	177874
2018#²	194881
2019#²	211661
2020#²	50136

#2 Revised estimates

(c) & (d): In order to create a robust framework and synergy amongst the Central Government Ministries, State Governments and Private Sector for promoting India as a Medical and Wellness tourism destination through a dedicated agency to create awareness and attract more medical tourists to India, a draft National Strategy and Roadmap for Medical and Wellness Tourism has been formulated by Ministry of Tourism. In order to make the document more comprehensive, Ministry of Tourism has invited feedback/ comments/ suggestions on the draft National Strategy and Roadmap from identified Central Ministries, all the State Governments/UT Administrations and industry stakeholders.

Further, Ministry of Tourism has taken several steps to create awareness and attract more medical tourists to India, which are at Annexure.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) & (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3469 ANSWERED ON 20.12.2021 REGARDING FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNED THROUGH MEDICAL TOURISM

The following are the several steps taken by Ministry of Tourism to create awareness and attract more medical tourists to India:

- a. 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 an umbrella organization that promotes this segment of tourism in an organized manner.**
- b. Brochure, CDs and other publicity material to promote Medical and health tourism have been produced by the Ministry and the same are widely distributed and circulated for publicity in target markets.**
- c. Medical and health tourism have been specifically promoted at various international platforms such as World Travel Mart, London, ITB, Berlin, Arabian Travel Mart etc.**
- d. 'Medical Visa' has been introduced, which can be given for specific purpose to foreign travelers coming to India for medical treatment. 'E- Medical Visa' has also been introduced for 166 countries.**
- e. Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance under Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme to Medical/Wellness Tourism Service Providers and Wellness Centres accredited by NABH for participation in Medical/Tourism Fairs, Medical Conferences, Wellness Conferences, Wellness Fairs and allied Road Shows.**
