

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.66  
ANSWERED ON 04.02.2019**

**PROMOTION OF MEDICAL TOURISM**

**66. SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM:**

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

- (a) whether India is emerging as a popular destination for medical tourism and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether medical tourism in the country is projected to be a \$9 billion opportunity by 2020 and if so, the details thereof along with the current achievement of medical tourism;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring out a new policy to promote India as a key destination for medical tourism and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to ease the travel processes and promote medical tourism; and**
- (d) the details of the number of foreign tourists who visited the country for health/medical tourism along with the revenue and employment generated therefrom during each of the last three years and the current year?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)**

**(SHRI K.J. ALPHONS)**

**(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. India has emerged as a major Medical Tourism destination. As per a FICCI-IMS Knowledge Paper titled, 'Medical Value travel in India: Enhancing value in MVT', published in 2016, India is amongst the top 6 MVT (Medical Value Travel) destinations of the world which include Thailand, Singapore, India, Malaysia, Taiwan and Mexico. It is further informed that as per the above report, through adequate focus and effective execution, Indian Medical Value Travel, pegged at 3 billion USD in 2015, can be a 9 billion USD opportunity by 2020.**

**(c) & (d): The Ministry of Tourism has recognized Medical and Wellness Tourism as Niche Tourism Products and offers various facilities as given below to promote India as a preferred destination as well as facilitate the visit of medical tourists to the country:**

- (i) The Ministry offers financial support as Marketing Development Assistance for Publicity and for organising Wellness and Medical Tourism Promotion shows as well as workshops/events/seminars to accredited Medical and Wellness Tourism Service Providers and Chambers of Commerce, etc.**
- (ii) A film on Medical Tourism has been produced in association with BBC and is used at various fora for promotional purposes.**
- (iii) Medical and Medical attendant visa has been introduced to streamline and ease the travel process of Medical tourists. The e-tourist visa regime has also been expanded to include medical visits as well.**

**The Department of Commerce and Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC) have launched a Healthcare Portal [www.indiahealthcaretourism.com](http://www.indiahealthcaretourism.com), as a single source platform providing comprehensive information to medical travelers on the top healthcare institutions in the country. This portal is available in English, Arabic, Russian and French.**

**A National Medical and Wellness Tourism Board has been constituted to provide a dedicated institutional framework to take forward the cause of promotion of Medical and Wellness Tourism including Ayurveda and any other format of Indian system of medicine covered by Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH).**

**It has also been decided to set up facilitation counters at the major airports of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Bengaluru for tourists arriving on Medical Visas.**

**The Ministry of Tourism collates data regarding the arrivals on Medical and Medical Attendant visas provided by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Following are the foreign tourist arrivals in India for medical purpose during 2014 to 2017:**

<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>1,39,447</b>	<b>2,33,918</b>	<b>4,27,014</b>	<b>4,95,056</b>

**The Ministry of Tourism does not compile information on employment generated and revenue earned through medical tourism.**

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