

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AYUSH**

**LOKSABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2806  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17/03/2023**

**SPECIAL AYUSH VISA CATEGORY**

**2806. SHRI TAPIR GAO:**

**SHRI LALLU SINGH:**

Will the **MINISTER OF AYUSH** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government plans to introduce a special AYUSH visa category for foreign nationals who want to come to India to take advantage of traditional medicines and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any steps have been taken up to compile a data of the number of foreigners arriving in India for treatment and training in the field;
- (c) the schemes of the Government to promote the medical tourism in the country;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to promote medical tourism through its G20 Presidency and other International forums; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF AYUSH  
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)**

- (a) During the inaugural ceremony of the “Global Ayush Investment and Innovation Summit” held on 20.04.2022 at Gandhinagar, Gujarat, the Hon'ble Prime Minister made the announcement to launch a special category of Ayush visa for foreign visitors for Ayush medical travel/education/treatment including Yoga. The same has been taken up with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of External Affairs.
- (b) No such information is available with the Ministry of Ayush.
- (c) The Government has initiated numerous schemes for the promotion of Medical Value Travel (MVT) in the country:
  - (i) The Ministry has developed a Central Sector Scheme for the Promotion of International Co-operation in Ayush (IC Scheme) under which various activities are being taken to promote & propagate Ayush System of at international level. The Ministry of Ayush, through this scheme, provides support to Indian Ayush drug Manufacturers/ Ayush Service providers to give

boost to the export of AYUSH products & services; facilitates the International promotion, development and recognition of the Ayush system of medicine; foster interaction of the stakeholders and market development of AYUSH at international level; promote academics and research through the establishment of AYUSH Academic Chairs in foreign countries and holding training workshop/symposiums for promoting and strengthening awareness and interest about AYUSH Systems of Medicine at international level.

- (ii) The Ministry of Ayush developed Central Sector Scheme namely Champion Services Sector Scheme for Medical Value Travel under which financial assistance in the form of interest subsidy is provided to private investors for the Establishment of World Class, State of the Art Super Specialty Hospitals/ Day Care Centres of the systems recognized under Indian Medicine Central Council (IMCC) Act, 1970 or Homeopathic Central Council (HCC) Act, 1973 on Pan India basis..

(d) & (e) Union Health Ministry has organized a side event during its first Health Working Group meeting held in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala from 18th - 20th January, 2023 to build consensus in G20 countries for the promotion of holistic, value-based healthcare through medical tourism.

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