GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3714

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 17TH MARCH, 2020/PHALGUNA 27, 1941 (SAKA)

EXPANSION OF VISA ON ARRIVAL FACILITY TO PROMOTE TOURISM

3714. SHRI DEVUSINH JESINGHBHAI CHAUHAN: SHRI VIJAY KUMAR DUBEY: SHRI CHIRAG KUMAR PASWAN: SHRI REBATI TRIPURA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has extended the 'Visa on Arrival' facility to promote tourism sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the number of foreign tourists has increased after expansion of 'Visa on Arrival' facility; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has any proposal to enlist more countries under the said scheme to increase foreign tourism in the near future; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) to (d): Presently nationals of Japan, South Korea & UAE have been granted the facility of visa-on-arrival (VOA). This facility can be availed by such nationals for business, tourism, conference and medical purposes.

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Number of VOA passengers from these countries during the period 2017 to 2019 is given below:

	2017	2018	2019
Japan	12025	13053	13810
South Korea	-	7735	28098
United Arab Emirates	-	-	434

(e) & (f): Expansion of VOA facility is an ongoing process which is taken up after appropriate consultation with all stakeholders.
