

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3679
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2016**

AGREEMENT TO PROMOTE TOURISM

3679. SHRI GAURAV GOGOI:

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to sign any agreement or to establish an MoU on co-operation with national and international organizations in areas of Tourism including expansion of Bilateral co-operation, exchange of information and data related to tourism and encouraging co-operation between tourism stakeholders including Hotel and Tour Operators of various countries to promote tourism and if so, the details thereof, country-wise and organisation-wise;**
- (b) the extent to which tourism in the country has benefited out of these bilateral agreements;**
- (c) whether these agreements will help enhancing the number of foreign and domestic tourists and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government has issued any directions to the State Governments in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether the task of promoting tourism as per the said agreements has since commenced and if so, the progress made so far?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Tourism has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)/Agreements/Letter of Intent (LoI) for strengthening bilateral and multilateral tourism cooperation with

various countries. The main objectives of such MoUs/Agreements/Lol include:

- (i) Exchange of information and data related to tourism.**
- (ii) Cooperation between tourism stakeholders including Hotels & Tour Operators.**
- (iii) Exchange programmes for cooperation in Human Resource Development.**
- (iv) Investment in the Tourism and Hospitality sector.**
- (v) Exchange of visits of Tour Operators/Media/Opinion Makers for promotion of two way tourism.**
- (vi) Exchange of experience in the areas of promotion, marketing, destination development and management.**
- (vii) Participation in travel fairs/exhibitions in each other's country.**

A list of MoUs/Agreements/Lol signed with other countries/organisations may be seen at Annexure-I.

(e): Under the framework of MoUs/Agreements signed with various countries, the Ministry of Tourism regularly participates in and organises Joint Working Group meetings to further discuss issues related to bi-lateral tourism cooperation. A list of Joint Working Group meetings held with different countries may be seen at Annexure-II.

ANNEXURE-I**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3679 ANSWERED ON 08.08.2016 REGARDING AGREEMENT TO PROMOTE TOURISM.****1. MOUs currently valid**

Sl. No	Name of the country with whom MoU/ Agreement/Protocols signed	Date of signature
1.	Iraq (Protocol)	25.10.1986
2.	Portugal (Agreement)	29.07.1991
3.	Syria (Agreement)	08.10.1991
4.	Hungary (Agreement)	16.10.1992
5.	Belarus (Agreement)	14.05.1993
6.	Israel (Agreement)	18.05.1993
7.	Singapore (Agreement)	24.01.1994
8.	Russia (Agreement)	30.06.1994
9.	Turkey (Agreement)	31.01.1995
10.	Iran (MoU)	18.04.1995
11.	Mexico (Agreement)	28.03.1996
12.	Seychelles (Agreement)	03.10.1996
13.	Cyprus (Agreement)	07.11.1996
14.	Greece (Agreement)	13.01.1998
15.	Mongolia (Agreement)	01.12.1998
16.	Morocco (Agreement)	13.02.1999
17.	Indonesia (MOU)	08.02.2000
18.	Italy (Agreement)	26.06.2000
19.	Tunisia (Agreement)	08.12.2000
20.	Sri Lanka (MOU)	23.01.2004
21.	Brazil (Agreement)	25.01.2004
22.	Serbia (MOU)	02.11.2004
23.	Afghanistan (Agreement)	06.12.2005
24.	Jordan (Agreement)	01.12.2006
25.	IBSA Tripartite Agreement	15.10.2008
26.	Spain (MOU)	22.04.2009
27.	Poland (Agreement)	25.04.2009
28.	Malaysia (MOU)	27.10.2010
29.	ASEAN (MOU)	12.01.2012
30.	Mauritius (MOU)	12.03.2013

31.	Japan (Memorandum)	22.01.2014
32.	Australia MoU	18.11.2014
33.	Nepal (MoU)	25.11.2014
34.	France (LoI)	09.04.2015
35.	China (Agreement)	15.05.2015
36.	Tanzania (MoU)	19.06.2015
37.	Uzbekistan (Agreement)	06.07.2015
38.	Turkmenistan (MoU)	11.07.2015
39.	Egypt (MoU)	24.08.2015
40.	U.A.E.	03.09.2015
41.	Cambodia (MoU)	16.09.2015
42.	Maldives (MoU)	10.04.2016
43.	Qatar (MoU)	05.06.2016
44.	South Africa (MoU)	08.07.2016

2. MoU's Which have expired

Sl. No	Name of the country with whom MoU/ Agreement/Protocols signed	Date of signature
1.	Republic of Korea (South) (Agreement)	10.09.1993
2.	Bulgaria (Agreement)	26.05.1994
3.	Romania (Agreement)	02.06.1994
4.	Kyrgyzstan (Agreement)	22.09.1995
5.	Peru (Agreement)	26.05.1997
6.	Vietnam (Agreement)	08.01.2001
7.	Kazakhstan (Agreement)	03.06.2002
8.	Ukraine (Agreement)	12.08.2003
9.	Thailand (Agreement)	09.10.2003
10.	Tajikistan (Agreement)	14.11.2003
11.	Fiji (Agreement)	10.10.2005
12.	Philippines (Agreement)	04.02.2006

ANNEXURE-II**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3679 ANSWERED ON 08.08.2016 REGARDING AGREEMENT TO PROMOTE TOURISM.**

Sl. No	Name of the country with whom MoU/ Agreement/Protocols signed	Date of signature	Number of Joint Working Group (JWG) Meeting held
1.	Israel (Agreement)	18.05.1993	01
2.	Turkey (Agreement)	31.01.1995	02
3.	Mexico (Agreement)	28.03.1996	01
4.	Greece (Agreement)	13.01.1998	03
5.	Mongolia (Agreement)	01.12.1998	01
6.	Indonesia (MOU)	08.02.2000	03
7.	Italy (Agreement)	26.06.2000	01
8.	Sri Lanka (MOU)	23.01.2004	02
9.	Philippines (Agreement)	04.02.2006	02
10.	IBSA Tripartite Agreement	15.10.2008	01
11.	ASEAN (MOU)	12.01.2012	Tourism Working Group meetings are held twice a year.
12.	Australia	18.11.2014	01
13.	Nepal (MoU)	25.11.2014	02
14.	Cambodia	16.09.2015	01
