

financial sector under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA) and disseminates information to relevant intelligence/ investigation agencies and regulators of financial sector.

Tourist visa on arrival facility

3175. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of countries which have been provided with the facility of Tourist Visa on Arrival for promotion of tourism in the country;
- (b) to what extent the above relaxation helps in increasing tourism in the country;
- (c) whether it is true that many countries are asking for providing them the facility of Tourist Visa on Arrival; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Government of India has provided Tourist Visa on Arrival (TVOA) facility for the citizens of 11 countries viz. Japan, Singapore, Finland, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Philippines, Myanmar and Indonesia for promotion of tourism in the country. 17671 nationals of above mentioned countries availed the TVOA facility upto November, 2011.

- (c) No formal request has been received in the Ministry of Home Affairs to provide facility of TVOA, from any other country.
- (d) Does not arise.

Inquiry against NGOs for funding political activities

3176. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has ordered an inquiry against NGOs for funding political activities using funds/donations received from abroad; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Old age pensioners in jails

†3177. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of prisoners above 60 years currently lodged in country's jails;

(b) whether it is a fact that they are forced to live a hellish life for want of amenities in jails;

(c) if so, whether Government is making any law on release of prisoners above 65 years old; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) In National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) proforma for collection of data on prisoners, the nearest classification of age group is 50 years and above. As on 31.12.2010, 46604 prisoners above 50 years of age were lodged in various jails in the country.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Since "Prison" is a State subject under List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution and Prison Administration is the responsibility of the respective State Governments. Amenities in jails are provided as per stipulated guidelines laid out in the prison manuals of the respective State Governments and they are uniformly applied irrespective of the age profile of the prisoners.

(d) Does not arise in view of the above.

Review of norms for grants under BADP

3178. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to review the norms for providing grants under the Border Areas Development Programme (BADP);

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.