

Foreign tourists coming to India for medical tourism

2458. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimate of total number of foreign tourists which came to India in the last three years for medical tourism;

(b) whether Government of India is issuing medical visa for people who want to visit India for treatment at various medical centres; and

(c) whether Government has made the procedure for obtaining visa on medical ground easier/simpler for foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) Arrival of foreigners in India on Medical Visa is showing an increasing trend over the years as per details given below:—

Year	No. of foreigners
2014	76680
2015	134344
2016	176683

(b) and (c) As per existing instructions, on a Medical Visa one additional entry can be granted in emergent situations. Further under the existing e-Tourist Visa Scheme, foreign nationals are permitted to undertake short term medical treatment including treatment under Indian systems of medicine. A proposal for further liberalization, simplification and rationalisation of visa regime in India which *inter-alia* includes triple entry on e-Medical Visa as against the single entry and grant of Medical Visas within 48 hours of application in cases of emergent requirement, has been considered by the Cabinet on 30.11.2016.

Protest by MTFD against Bills passed by Manipur Assembly

2459. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the symbolic coffin laid in Jantar Mantar since 4 November, 2015 by Manipur Tribals Forum Delhi (MTFD) in protest against the three anti-tribal Bills passed by the Manipur Assembly on 31st August, 2015, if so, the details thereof;