

E-tourist visa facilities

3101. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of airports at which Government is extending e-tourist visa facilities for foreigners;

(b) the criteria/parameters which Government takes into consideration for issuing e-visas to foreigners; and

(c) the criteria/parameters which Government takes into consideration for choosing an airport for extending e-visa facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) At present, e-tourist visa facility is being provided at 16 (sixteen) designated airports namely, Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Bangalore, Chennai, Cochin, Dabolim (Goa), Delhi, Gaya, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Tiruchirapalli, Trivandrum and Varanasi.

(b) E-tourist visa facility is currently available for the sole objective of visiting India for recreation, sightseeing, casual visit to meet friends/relatives, attending a short term yoga programme, short duration medical treatment including treatment under Indian systems of medicine or casual business visit etc., subject to clearance from security agencies.

(c) E-tourist visa facility is provided at airports after ensuring availability of adequate manpower and infrastructure *i.e.* counters, computers and other technical gadgets.

Security infrastructure to plug cross border infiltration

3102. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is developing a multi-layered security infrastructure to plug cross border infiltration on the western front;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an indigenous sensor technology to detect infiltration under water would also be the part of this strategy; and

(d) whether any time schedule has been chalked out to complete this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) to (d) The Government has adopted multi-pronged