

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3347
ANSWERED ON 31.03.2022**

VISA FEE WAIVER FOR TOURISTS

3347 SHRI K.J. ALPHONS:

Will the Minister of **TOURISM** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of Tourism will take the initiative to recommend to the Ministry of Home Affairs to waive visa fee for a period of two years so that tourism recovers post COVID-19; and
- (b) whether the Ministry will consider waiving entry fee for all categories of tourists at locations which have an entrance fee so as to encourage more people to visit these places?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): Ministry of Tourism took up the matter regarding tourist visa free of cost with Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for helping the tourism industry for early recovery.

The Ministry of Finance, Government of India announced on 28th June, 2021 that after resumption of visa issuance, the first 5 Lakh Tourist Visas will be issued free of cost. The scheme will be applicable till 31st March 2022 or till 5,00,000 visas are issued, whichever is earliest.

(b): There is no such proposal taken up with Ministry of Culture and Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) for waiving entry fee of the monuments.
