

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3488
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2005
FOREIGN TOURIST CHARTER FLIGHTS
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to allow foreign tourist charter flights on the major airports;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the other steps taken or proposed to be taken to attract more foreign tourists?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a)and (b): Government has allowed operation of tourist charter flights originating from any foreign country on Inclusive Tour Package basis to all airports in India having customs & immigration facilities without any limitations on frequencies of flights or size of the aircraft. These Inclusive Tour Package Charter flights can also be operated to other airport and the facilities for Customs and Immigration would be made available on ad-hoc or seasonal basis by Customs and Immigration authorities on the request of tour operator.

(c): In accordance with the policy of liberalization in the civil aviation sector and with a view to attract more passengers including tourists, the Government has adopted an overall liberal approach in the matter of grant of traffic rights under bilateral agreements with various foreign countries. Ministry of Tourism has also taken many steps to attract foreign tourists in the recent past like creation of world class collaterals, centralised electronic media Campaign, direct Co-operative marketing with tour operators, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, optimising editorial public relations and publicity, generating tourists publications and launching of Road shows in key source markets etc.