

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3360
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2007
MEDICAL TOURISM
Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of foreign tourists who came to India for medical treatment-cum- tourism each year during the last three years and foreign exchange earned therefrom;
- (b) the nature of illness/disease and medical infrastructure and facilities available to treat dental and heart patients and rate of success of such treatment;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate specific medical tourism policy encouraging travel agents, public and private hospitals with new investments to compete successfully in the market attracting foreign medical tourists and to benefit domestic patients at comparatively low costs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE INISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

- (a) & (b): The Ministry of Tourism does not collect separate information on medical tourist traffic, foreign exchange earned therefrom, nature of illness/disease and rate of success of treatment.
- (c) & (d): The Ministry of Tourism in collaboration with the Ministry of Health has already initiated several measures to promote Medical Tourism which include promotion in overseas markets and production of publicity materials like brochures, CDs and films etc. and their distribution in target markets. Specific promotion at various international travel fairs such as World Travel Mart, London and ITB, Berlin etc. is also undertaken. A guide on select Indian hospitals of the country which promote health tourism at competitive cost has been placed on Ministry of Tourism's website www.incredibleindia.org for wider publicity.