GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS RAJYA SABHA QUESTION NO 4543 ANSWERED ON 12.04.2017

Database of foreign nationals visiting India

4543 Shri Ranjib Biswal

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government proposes to create a database of foreign nationals visiting India as they often overstay their visa;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the benefits that will accrue as a result thereof;
- (c) whether any time-frame has been fixed by Government if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the number of foreign nationals caught smuggling drugs into India during the last one year and the action taken against them?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) & (b): The Government under the Immigration, Visa and Foreigners Registration Tracking (IVFRT)project is maintaining database of arrival/departure and visa details of all foreigners visiting India. A Unique Case File (UCF) is created for each of the Indian Visa applicants and all the details are clubbed. So far about 2.70 crore UCF has been created. The UCF data is useful in getting details that may be needed in specific cases. It helps in better profiling of the foreigners at the Immigration Counters in less time.

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- (c) The IVFRT project approved in 2010 and implemented in 2011 has so far covered 163 Indian Mission, 674 FROs/Districts, 87 Immigration Check Posts (ICPs) and 21 State Home Departments. For now, the project has been extended for six months beyond 31.03.2017.
- (d) On the basis of information provided by the Narcotics Control Bureau, more than 200 foreigners have been arrested and prosecuted under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 during 2016.
