

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.150
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2023

REVIVAL OF TOURISM INDUSTRY POST PANDEMIC

150. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH:

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

- (a) the details regarding tourism revenue in the country during the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) whether there was a decline in the revenue during the pandemic;
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government to revive the tourism industry;
- (d) whether tourism industry has shown signs of revival; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): Data on revenue generated through tourism is not maintained by the Ministry of Tourism. However, Foreign Exchange Earnings for the last five years are as follows:

Sr. No.	Parameter	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1.	Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEEs) through Tourism (Rs. Crore)	177874	194881	211661	50136	65070

(b): To assess the extent of losses to the sector, the Ministry of Tourism engaged National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in to conduct study on “India and the Coronavirus Pandemic: Economic Losses for Households Engaged in Tourism and Policies for Recovery”. As per study, tourism economy saw a decline during pandemic.

(c): The details of the various fiscal and non-fiscal relief measures announced by the Government for post-covid recovery of tourism sector, are enclosed at Annexure.

(d) & (e): Tourism Industry has shown good signs of revival. According to latest information received from Bureau of Immigration, India received 6.19 million Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) during 2022 as compare to 1.52 million during the same period of 2021. Further, Domestic tourism is also witnessing growth in the country. India received 677.63 million Domestic Tourist Visits (DTV) in 2021 as compare to 610.22 million in 2020.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.150 ANSWERED ON 02.02.2023 REGARDING REVIVAL OF TOURISM INDUSTRY POST PANDEMIC.

The following are the various fiscal and non-fiscal relief measures announced by the Government for redeveloping post-covid tourism sector of the country:

- i. The Government announced Atmanirbhar Bharat Package vide which Rs.3.00 lakh crore collateral free automatic loan has been made available for MSMEs. The loan will have 4-year tenure and 12-month moratorium.
- ii. Under Atmanirbhar Bharat package, PF contribution of both employer and employee had been reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for three months.
- iii. Return filing deferred for three months with no penal interest for companies up to Rs.5.00 Crore, rest @ 9% penal interest.
- iv. The Central government also gave relief from various regulatory compliances under Income Tax Act, companies Act and GST Act for varying period in the wake of COVID-19 crisis to ensure business continuity and survival.
- v. The Government announced the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) 3.0 on 31.3.2021 to support eligible Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and business enterprises in meeting their operational liabilities and restarting their business. The scope of the scheme was enlarged to cover business enterprises in Hospitality, Travel & Tourism and Leisure & Sporting sectors. Provision of additional corpus of Rs.50,000 crores have also been made for hospitality sector. The validity of ECLGS (ECLGS 1.0, ECLGS 2.0 & ECLGS 3.0) has been extended till 31.03.2023 or till guarantees for an amount of Rs.5.00 lakh crores are issued.
- vi. On 28th June 2021, the Government announced a stimulus package to boost diverse sectors of economy affected by COVID-19 pandemic and provide impetus for growth and employment measures. The package comprises a total of 17 measures in three broad categories, which included 'Economic relief from Pandemic, with special focus on health and reviving travel and tourism sectors' and 'Impetus for Growth and employment'.
- vii. Ministry of Tourism launched 'Loan Guarantee Scheme for Covid Affected Tourism Service Sector (LGSCATSS)', which aims at extending collateral free loan to the distressed tourism sector to help them discharge their liabilities and restart their business affected due to Covid-19 pandemic. Under this scheme, collateral free Loan upto Rs.10.00 lakh each may be availed by MoT approved Tour operator/ Travel Agents/ Tourist Transport Operators and upto Rs.1.00 lakh each may be availed by RLGs/IITGs approved by MoT and Tourist Guides approved by State Government/UT Administration. The scheme is already operational through 18 Scheduled Commercial Banks. Validity of the scheme has been extended by one more year i.e. till 31st March, 2023 or till the guarantee of Rs. 250.00 crores are issued under the scheme.
- viii. An initiative called SAATHI (System for Assessment, Awareness & Training for Hospitality Industry) has been developed for effective implementation of Guidelines/ SOPs issued with reference to COVID-19 and beyond for safe operations of Hotels, Restaurants, B&B sand other units.

- ix. Validity of approval or certification of hotels and other accommodation units whose project approval/ re-approval and classification/ re-classification have expired/were likely to expire was extended up to 31st March 2022.
- x. With an aim to incentivize stakeholders in the Tourism industry, the Guidelines for the scheme of Market Development Assistance (MDA) for providing financial support to stakeholders for the promotion of Domestic Tourism have been modified to enhance the scope and reach of the scheme, so as to provide maximum benefits to the stakeholders. Additional promotional activities have been incorporated including online promotions and the extent of financial assistance permissible has been enhanced. The Guidelines of the Marketing Development Assistance Programme under the Overseas Promotion and Publicity Scheme has been modified to enhance the scope and reach of the scheme, so as to provide maximum benefits to the stakeholders in the tourism industry.
- xi. For the purpose of restarting inbound tourism and attracting foreign tourists in the country, Government of India extended first 5 lakh visas to the foreign tourists from potential tourism markets, free of cost. The benefit of free of charge visa was available only once per tourist during the issuance of the first 5lakh tourist visas.
- xii. Owing to the situation which arose out of COVID-19 pandemic, Ministry of Tourism in consultation with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare issued guidelines/directions to the Tourism Stakeholders, Hotels and Restaurants to facilitate smooth resumption of business.
- xiii. Ministry of Home Affairs restored- Tourist Visa for foreign nationals of 156 countries w.e.f.15th March,2022. Also, after having recognized the increased vaccination coverage across the globe and in consultation with the stakeholders, the Government of India resumed scheduled commercial international passenger services to/from India w.e.f. 27th March,2022.
