

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2704
ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023

TOURISM SECTOR OF THE COUNTRY AND THE G20 SUMMIT

2704. DR. SONAL MANSINGH:

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

- (a) the details regarding preparedness of the tourism sector of the country for the proposed G20 summit;
- (b) the details of major tourism hubs identified for the G20 Summit;
- (c) the aims and objective of 'Dharamshala Declaration'; and
- (d) whether Government has plans to use the G20 summit as an opportunity to position itself as a major tourism destination?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): India is hosting more than 200 meetings in 55 selected cities throughout the country. All these cities are prepared for hosting the meetings. The infrastructure at these cities are being augmented and upgraded for the G20 meetings.

Tourism offerings are being highlighted in run up to these meetings. Excursion of Delegates is also organised to nearby tourist attractions.

Soft skills training of tour guides, taxi drivers, hoteliers, travel agents and other stakeholders is being done at these destinations.

Renovation and upgradation of archaeological monuments, heritage sites on national and international importance sites are being done.

(b): The declaration identifies five major areas of focus for the tourism industry for the next ten years. They are:

- Green tourism
- Digital tourism
- Destination management
- Skilling the hospitality sector
- Supporting tourism-related to MSMEs.

- It aims to pull India out of the pandemic's adverse effects and push India's tourism sector to the pre-pandemic level by 2024 in the short term.
- It also aims to position India as a major tourist destination in the upcoming G-20 meeting. It will document India's rich cultural heritage and scenic beauty.
- It has also committed to bringing about necessary interventions including visa reforms, ease of travel, travel-friendly immigration facilities and openness to international travel.
- It has enumerated that it will emphasise India's cultural and architectural beauty and scenic atmosphere in order to attract tourists to India.
- It has also made a target to highlight various dynamics of tourism like Cultural, Spiritual and Heritage tourism, tourism in Himalayan states, medical tourism, etc.

(c): The major tourism hubs identified for meetings related to G20 are Rann Of Kutch, Siliguri/Darjeeling, Goa, Agartala, Agra, Aizawl, Amritsar, Aurangabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Coimbatore, Delhi, Dimapur, Diu, Gandhinagar/Ahmedabad, Gangtok, Guwahati, Hampi, Hyderabad, Imphal, Indore, Itanagar, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kavaratti, Kevadia, Khajuraho, Kochi, Kolkata, Leh, Lucknow, Mahabalipuram, Mumbai, Mysuru, Patna, Port Blair, Puducherry, Rishikesh, Shillong, Shimla, Srinagar, Surat, Thiruvananthapuram, Udaipur, Varanasi and Visakhapatnam.

(d): G20 meetings are being held at 55 destinations throughout the country.

The infrastructure at these cities are being augmented and upgraded for the G20 meetings.

Tourism offerings are being highlighted in run up to these meetings. Excursion of Delegates is also organised to nearby tourist attractions.

Effort is being made to make G20 Delegates visiting these destinations are going back to their countries as tourism ambassadors.

Infrastructure of these host cities in being augmented & upgraded for G20 meetings. Important tourism sites and facilities are being upgraded to international standards.
