

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.783
ANSWERED ON 08.02.2024

ROAD-MAP TO BOOST TOURISM

783 LT. GEN. (DR.) D. P. VATS (RETD.):
SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH:
DR. KALPANA SAINI:
SMT. KANTA KARDAM:

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

- (a) the details of the number of tourists who arrived in India in the year 2023;
- (b) the number of tourists arrived in India post-pandemic since 2021 and whether India is targeting to reach the figure of 100 million tourist arrivals in the long run;
- (c) the details of the number of tourists expected to arrive in India in the next five years and whether Government has prepared any roadmap to boost the tourism industry in India;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Ministry to promote tourism for the newly built Ram temple in Ayodhya?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) & (b): As per information received from the Bureau of Immigration, the details of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in the country during 2021 to 2023 are given below:

S. No.	Year	FTAs in India (in thousands)
1.	2021	1527
2.	2022	6437
3.	2023 (Jan-Nov) (P)	8166

Source: Bureau of Immigration.

(P): Provisional

As per the study 'India and the Coronavirus Pandemic: Economic Losses for Households Engaged in Tourism and Policies for Recovery', conducted by the Ministry of Tourism, Domestic tourism is likely to reach the pre-pandemic level, by 2024-25. Further on the basis of data received from BOI, Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) are likely to reach pre-pandemic level by 2024.

(c) & (d): Ministry of Tourism has taken several steps/initiatives over the years to give boost to the tourism sector in the country, details of which are:

- (i) Launched Dekho Apna Desh initiative with the objective of creating awareness among the citizens about the rich heritage and culture of the country and encourage citizens to travel within the country.
 - (ii) Conducting Programmes under the 'Capacity Building for Service Providers' (CBSP) Scheme to train and upgrade manpower to provide better service standards.
 - (iii) Launched Incredible India Tourist Facilitator Certification Programme, a digital initiative that aims at creating an online learning platform with the objective of creating a pool of well trained professional tourist facilitators across the country to support tourists.
 - (iv) 24x7 toll free Multi-Lingual Tourist Helpline.
 - (v) E-Visa is presently available under seven sub-categories i.e. e-Tourist Visa, e-Business Visa, e-Medical Visa, e-Medical Attendant Visa, E-Conference Visa, e-Ayush Visa and e-Ayush Attendant Visa. E-tourist visa is available under 3 options – (i) 05 years with multiple entry; (ii) 1 year with multiple entry and (iii) one month with double entry.
 - (vi) E-Visa has been further liberalized and the visa fee has been substantially reduced.
 - (vii) New mountain peaks have been opened for Mountaineering/Trekking to give boost to adventure tourism in the country.
 - (viii) GST (Goods and Services Tax) Council announced a cut in the tax rate on hotel room tariffs, a move aimed at giving a boost to the hospitality sector. The GST rate on hotel rooms with tariffs of up to Rs.7,500 per night has been cut to 12% from the existing 18%. Similarly, the tax on room tariff of above Rs.7,500 has been slashed to 18% from the existing 28%. There will be no GST on room tariffs of below Rs.1,000 per night.
 - (ix) Under RCS UDAN Tourism, Ministry of Tourism has collaborated with Ministry of Civil Aviation and has got 53 tourism routes operational for better connectivity of important tourist places.
- (e): As per the information received from State Government of Uttar Pradesh, 55 Tourism infrastructure projects worth Rs.695.74 crore have been completed/implemented for the convenience of tourists and devotees arriving in Ayodhya district. The details are given in the annexure.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.783 ANSWERED ON 08.02.2024 REGARDING ROAD-MAP TO BOOST TOURISM BY LT. GEN. (DR.) D. P. VATS (RETD.), SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH, DR. KALPANA SAINI AND SMT. KANTA KARDAM

Details of Implemented/Completed Projects in Ayodhya as of 08-01-2024

S.No.	Government	Number of Projects	Total Amount (Rs. in crore)	Work completed/In progress
1	Central Government	02	140.68	Completed - 01 In progress - 01
2	State Government	53	555.06	Completed - 19 In progress - 32 Tender under Progress - 02
	Total	55	695.74	55
