GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3593

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 02ND APRIL, 2025/ CHAITRA 12, 1947 (SAKA)

PROMOTION OF TOURISM IN LADAKH

3593 # SHRI BABURAM NISHAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether, after the formation of Union Territory of Ladakh in 2019, Government has taken any steps to promote tourism in the region;
- (b) whether it has been helpful in providing employment opportunities; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

- (a) to (c): After the formation of Union Territory of Ladakh in 2019, Government has taken a number of steps to promote tourism in the region, such as:
 - i. The Union Territory of Ladakh has notified a policy called "Ladakh Homestay Policy". Under this policy, so far 1933 beneficiaries were given incentive to set up homestays.
 - ii. Tourism infrastructure has been strengthened by improving and constructing wayside amenities along all tourist circuits/routes and major highways.

- iii. Setting up of India's first ever Dark Sky Reserve at Hanle village in the Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary and granting permission for night stay of foreign tourists at Hanle village.
- iv. Opening of new Tourists Routes, Tourist Circuits and Trekking Routes.
- v. Undertaking promotional activities for promotion of tourism by participation in global tradeshows in India and abroad and organising various festivals across all regions of the UT of Ladakh.
- vi. Promotion of winter tourism by organising winter festivals and winter sports activities such as ice hockey, ice skating, ice climbing, skiing, etc.
- vii. Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned projects for the development of tourism related infrastructure under the Swadesh Darshan, Swadesh Darshan 2.0 and Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development Schemes.

The steps taken by the Government to promote tourism in the UT of Ladakh has created a wide range of employment opportunities in the field of hotel, homestay, transport service, infrastructure development, tour operator, local craftsmanship, event management, hospitality, maintenance, etc.
