

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1580**  
ANSWERED ON 12.02.2026

**ASSESSMENT OF OVER TOURISM**

1580 SMT. RANJEET RANJAN:  
SHRI HARIS BEERAN:

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any assessment of over tourism in India's key tourist destinations;
- (b) if so, the findings regarding peak tourist load, infrastructure stress and ecological degradation, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that several major tourist destinations face severe water shortages, waste accumulation, traffic collapse and increasing local resentment during peak tourist season; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to establish a national framework for sustainable tourism in the country?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): Development of tourism and addressing related issues such as over tourism, water and waste management, traffic management etc. is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Government/UT Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism through its various schemes such as 'Swadesh Darshan', 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' etc. provides financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations for development of tourism infrastructure and amenities on receipt of project proposals from them in line with the related scheme guidelines, government instructions, availability of funds, inter-se priority etc. These projects are further implemented by the concerned State/UT Implementing Agency.

The Ministry of Tourism recognizes that to minimize the negative impacts and maximise the positive impacts of tourism, sustainable and responsible tourism is the key. Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (revamped version of Swadesh Darshan scheme) encourages adoption of principles of sustainable tourism including environmental sustainability, socio-cultural sustainability and economic sustainability.

The Ministry has released the National Strategy for sustainable tourism which aims to mainstream sustainability in the Indian tourism sector and ensure more resilient, inclusive, carbon-neutral and resource-efficient tourism while safeguarding natural and cultural resources and the key stakeholders in the initiative also includes non-government organization and local community.

The Ministry has envisaged 'Travel for LiFE (TFL)', a programme for tourism sector under Mission LiFE, to create awareness about sustainable tourism and to nudge the tourists and tourism businesses to adopt sustainable practices synchronous with nature. The programme aims to mainstream sustainability into tourism sector towards developing a sustainable, responsible and resilient tourism sector.

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