

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1163
ANSWERED ON 11.02.2019**

COLLABORATION WITH ASEAN COUNTRIES

1163. SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:

SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:

SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:

SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:

KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:

SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to collaborate with the Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) countries to strengthen cooperation in the field of Tourism;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the terms and conditions thereto;**
- (c) whether Indian tourism has grown after the collaboration with ASEAN countries and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the obstacles that prevent India from taking transnational tourism venture along with the corrective steps taken/being taken in this regard;**
- (e) whether the Government has launched the ASEAN-India Tourism Cooperation year 2019 to enhance cooperation with a view to increasing two-way tourist visits and promoting greater people to people exchange between ASEAN countries and India; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the other measures taken/being taken by the Government to enhance the tourism in the country?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI K.J. ALPHONS)

(a) to (f): The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Governments of member states of Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

on strengthening tourism cooperation on 12.01.2012. Under the framework of this MoU, the Ministry of Tourism participates in Tourism Working Group meetings to take forward the cooperation in the field of tourism between India and ASEAN. The main areas of cooperation under the said MoU are as following:

- (i) **Sharing best practices for the development of sustainable tourism, sharing resources and facilities in order to provide mutual assistance in tourism education and training for quality tourism development.**
- (ii) **Support and encourage the participation of tourism stakeholders in travel marts, tourism exhibitions and festivals, joint tourism marketing and promotional activities.**
- (iii) **Promote and facilitate the undertaking of tourism-related projects or activities, travel and tourism between the India - ASEAN through joint promotion and tour packages etc., co-operation among the National Tourism Organisations of ASEAN and India and the tourism industry, particularly travel agencies and tour operators, airlines, hotels and resorts.**
- (iv) **Exchange information pertaining to statistics and development strategies, investment opportunities and economic data in tourism, travel and hospitality sectors relevant to each other.**
- (v) **Jointly organise seminars, workshops and meetings to exploring and discussing new opportunities and avenues for the development and promotion of tourism.**

There has been a growth in the foreign tourist arrivals from ASEAN member countries. In the last five years following number of tourists have visited India from the ASEAN region -

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*
685805	700298	745868	824575	886466

***Provisional**

To promote people to people, contact and to strengthen tourism cooperation with ASEAN region ASEAN-India Year of Tourism 2019 was launched during the seventh ASEAN India Tourism Ministers meeting held on 18.01.2019 at Ha Long, Vietnam. To promote tourism between India and ASEAN region a calendar of activities was also shared with ASEAN. As a part of ASEAN India

year of Tourism the Ministry of Tourism has already participated/organised the following activities –

- i) Participated in TRAVEX Fair at Ha Long, Vietnam from 16-18 January 2019.**
- ii) Highlighted ASEAN India Tourism Year 2019 at SATTE 2019 in India Pavilion in New Delhi from 16-18 January 2019.**
- iii) Participated in the 2nd ASEAN-India Youth Summit held in Guwahati from 03-07 February 2019.**
