

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1963
ANSWERED ON 19.12.2022**

REVIVAL OF TOURISM SECTOR AFTER PANDEMIC

1963. SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to revive the tourism sector in the post pandemic era;**
- (b) the revenue generated by the tourism sector during the past five years and the current financial year; and**
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to review the mechanisms of schemes and programmes in place for tourism industry?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): The Government of India has announced various relief measures to revive the tourism sector in the post pandemic era. The details are given at Annexure.

(b): The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India does not maintain data on revenue generated from tourism sector. However, Foreign Exchange Earnings for the last five years are as follows:

(Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	Parameter	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1.	Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEEs) through Tourism	177874	194881	211661	50136	65070

(c): The Ministry of Tourism has revamped its Swadesh Darshan scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible destinations following a tourist & destination centric approach.

Inter-Ministerial Co-ordination Committee for Tourism Sector (IMCCTS) under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary has been formed to facilitate resolution of Inter-Ministerial/Departmental issues involving the development of tourism and better connectivity to tourist destinations within the country. Various Ministries such as: M/o Civil Aviation, M/o External Affairs, M/o Home Affairs, M/o DONER, M/o Railways, M/o Road Transport & Highway, M/o Culture/ ASI, IRCTC etc. are members therein.

In addition, Ministry of Tourism organizes National Conference of State Tourism Ministers at regular intervals in order to resolve the issues between Centre, States/UTs and other stakeholders involving the development of tourism.

Apart from above, the Ministry of Tourism has formulated a Draft National Tourism Policy. The Key Strategic Objectives of the Policy are:

- (i) To enhance the contribution of tourism in Indian economy by increasing the visitation, stay and spend and making India a year-round tourist destination.**
- (ii) To create jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities in tourism sector and ensure supply of skilled work force.**
- (iii) To enhance the competitiveness of tourism sector and attract private sector investment.**
- (iv) To preserve and enhance the cultural and natural resources of the country.**
- (v) To ensure sustainable, responsible and inclusive development of tourism in the country.**

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1963 ANSWERED ON 19.12.2022 REGARDING REVIVAL OF TOURISM SECTOR AFTER PANDEMIC

The following are the various relief measures announced by the Government for redeveloping post-COVID tourism sector of the country:

- i. The Government announced Atmanirbhar Bharat Package vide which Rs.3.00 lakh crore collateral free automatic loan was made available for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The loan will have 4- year tenure and 12-month moratorium.**
- ii. Under Atmanirbhar Bharat package, PF contribution of both employer and employee was reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for three months.**
- iii. Return filing deferred for three months with no penal interest for companies up to Rs.5.00 Crore, rest @ 9% penal interest.**
- iv. The Government waived off PF contribution for three months for organisations with less than 100 pax and 90% of their employees earn below Rs.15000.**
- v. Deferment of Tax Collected at Source (TCS) up to October 2020.**
- vi. The Central government also gave relief from various regulatory compliances under Income Tax Act, companies Act and Goods and Service Tax (GST) Act for varying period in the wake of COVID-19 crisis to ensure business continuity and survival.**
- vii. Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) was launched in May, 2020 as part of Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan to support eligible Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and business enterprises in meeting their operational liabilities and restarting their businesses. Under the scheme, 100% credit guarantee is extended to the lending institutions for loans extended by them under the scheme to eligible borrowers. The admissible guarantee limit under the scheme has been increased from Rs. 4.5 lakh crore to Rs. 5 lakh crore, with the additional guarantee cover of Rs. 50,000 crore earmarked exclusively for the Hospitality and related enterprises including Civil Aviation sector.As per inputs received from National Credit Guarantee**

Trustee Company Limited (NCGTC), the agency operating the scheme, under ECLGS total 203180 guarantees amounting to a sum of Rs. 22015.82 crore have been issued to Travel, Tourism, Hotel, Restaurant etc. The detail is given below:

ECLGS data on Hospitality and related enterprises Sector as on 30.11.2022

ECLGS – TRAVEL AND TOURISM DATA		
Scheme Type	No of Guarantees Issued	Loan Amount Guaranteed (Rs. in Cr)
ECLGS 3.0	2943	1935.80
ECLGS 3.0 EXTENSION	668	393.12
TOTAL	3611	2328.94
ECLGS - HOTELS, RESTAURANTS ETC. DATA		
Scheme Type	No of Guarantees Issued	Loan Amount Guaranteed (Rs. in Cr)
ECLGS 3.0	3486	6197.5
ECLGS 3.0 EXTENSION	1336	2468
ECLGS 2.0	219	3437.11
ECLGS 2.0 EXTENSION	4	34.47
ECLGS 1.0	96740	3674.72
ECLGS 1.0 EXTENSION	97784	3875.08
TOTAL	199569	19686.88
Grand Total	203180	22015.82

viii. On 28th June 2021, the Government announced a stimulus package to boost diverse sectors of economy affected by COVID-19 pandemic and provide impetus for growth and employment measures. The package comprises a total of 17 measures in three broad categories, which included ‘Economic relief from

Pandemic, with special focus on health and reviving travel and tourism sectors' and 'Impetus for Growth and employment'.

- ix. Ministry of Tourism launched 'Loan Guarantee Scheme for Covid Affected Tourism Service Sector (LGSCATSS)', which aims at extending collateral free loan to the distressed tourism sector to help them discharge their liabilities and restart their business affected due to Covid-19 pandemic under this scheme, collateral free Loan upto Rs.10.00 lakh each may be availed by MoT approved Tour operator/Travel Agents/Tourist Transport Operators and upto Rs.1.00 lakh each may be availed by RLGs/IITGs approved by MoT and Tourist Guides approved by State Government/UT Administration. The scheme is already operational through 18 Scheduled Commercial Banks. Validity of the scheme has been extended by one more year i.e. till 31st March, 2023 or till the guarantee of Rs. 250.00 crore are issued under the scheme.**
- x. With a view to prepare for a post-COVID 19 revival, the Ministry has formulated and issued detailed operational guidelines for Covid safety and hygiene for hotels, restaurants, B&Bs/Homestays and Tourism Service Providers on 08.06.2020 to facilitate smooth resumption of business.**
- xi. An initiative called SAATHI (System for Assessment, Awareness & Training for Hospitality Industry) has been developed for effective implementation of Guidelines/SOPs issued with reference to COVID-19 and beyond for safe operations of Hotels, restaurants, B&Bs and other units.**
- xii. Validity of approval or certification of hotels and other accommodation units whose project approval/re-approval and classification/re-classification have expired/were likely to expire was extended up to 31st March 2022**
- xiii. With an aim to incentivize stakeholders in the Tourism industry, the Guidelines for the scheme of Market Development Assistance (MDA) for providing financial support to stakeholders for the promotion of Domestic Tourism have been modified to enhance the scope and reach of the scheme, so as to provide maximum benefits to the stakeholders. Additional promotional activities have been incorporated including online promotions and the extent of financial assistance permissible has been enhanced. The Guidelines of the Marketing Development Assistance Programme under the Overseas Promotion and Publicity Scheme has been modified to enhance the scope and reach of the**

scheme, so as to provide maximum benefits to the stakeholders in the tourism industry.

- xiv. For the purpose of restarting inbound tourism and attracting foreign tourists in the country, Government of India extended first 5 lakh visas to the foreign tourists from potential tourism markets, free of cost. The benefit of free of charge visa will be available only once per tourist during the issuance of the first 5 lakh tourist visas.**
- xv. Owing to the situation which arose out of COVID- 19 pandemic, Ministry of Tourism in consultation with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare issues guidelines/directions to the Tourism Stakeholders, Hotels and Restaurants to facilitate smooth resumption of business.**
- xvi. Ministry of Home Affairs restored e-Tourist Visa for foreign nationals of 156 countries w.e.f. 15th March, 2022. Also, after having recognized the increased vaccination coverage across the globe and in consultation with the stakeholders, the Government of India resumed scheduled commercial international passenger services to/from India w.e.f. 27th March, 2022.**
