

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.+599  
ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023**

**SCHEMES FOR FOREIGN TOURISTS**

**†599.SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:  
SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:**

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme for foreign tourists and development of tourism in the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Ministry maintains records regarding the number of foreign tourists coming to the country on tourist visa during the last three years;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Government has taken cognizance of foreign tourists including those from Western countries willing to settle in India and the reaction of Government thereto; and**
- (f) whether the Government proposes to introduce any tour programme for foreign tourists on the lines of tour programmes for Indian citizens by some of the State Government?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM**

**(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

**(a) to (f): Ministry of Tourism promotes India as a holistic destination in the tourism generating markets to promote various Indian tourism products and tourism destinations of the country to increase India's share of the global tourism market. These objectives are met through an integrated marketing and promotional strategy, and a synergized campaign in association with the Travel Trade, State Governments and Indian Missions. The Government continuously engages with industry**

**experts and other relevant stakeholders and take their suggestions and feedbacks for promotion of varied tourism products of India.**

**The Ministry of Tourism had taken various measures to facilitate the visits of foreign tourists such including 24x7 toll free Multi-Lingual Tourist Helpline, providing facility of e-Visa of 5 sub-categories i.e. e-Tourist visa, e-Business visa, e-Medical visa, e-Medical Attendant visa and e-Conference visa for nationals of 167 countries and the E-Visa has been further liberalized and the visa fees has been substantially reduced. In order to improve the amenities for the tourists at the monuments, Ministry of Tourism has started ‘Adopt a Heritage Project’ in coordination with the private sector for development and maintenance of tourist amenities at heritage sites/monuments and other tourist sites. Further, Ministry is also developing and promoting ‘Niche Tourism’ products to attract tourist with specific interest and to ensure repeat visits for the unique products in which India has a comparative advantage.**

**The details of foreign tourist arrival during the last three years given below:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>FTAs in India (in Million)</b>	<b>Percentage (%) Change over previous year</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>2.74</b>	<b>-74.9</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>1.52</b>	<b>-44.5</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>6.19</b>	<b>305.4</b>

**In order to facilitate the visit of tourists, the Ministry of Tourism is running Pan-India Incredible India Tourist Facilitator (IITF) Certification Program, a digital initiative that aims at creating an Online learning platform with the objective of creating a pool of well trained and profession Tourist Facilitators/Guides across the country. Further, in order to boost visitor arrival Ministry of Tourism, Government has declared “Incredible India! Visit India Year 2023”.**

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