

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1331
ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019**

**INCLUSION OF MORE COUNTRIES IN 'TOURIST VISA ON ARRIVAL'
FACILITY**

1331. SHRI RITESH PANDEY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been any increase in the foreign tourist arrivals owing to the e-tourist visas;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether there are any plans to include more countries in 'Tourist Visa on Arrival' facility;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the projects or schemes currently being implemented by the Government for developing avenues and increasing tourism in Uttar Pradesh?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. As per the information received from Bureau of Immigration, there has been significant increase in the foreign tourist arrivals (FTAs) through e-tourist visas, details of which are given below:

Year	2016	2017	2018
FTA (in Millions)	1.18	1.74	2.09

(c) & (d): There is no proposal to extend visa on arrival facility to more countries.

(e): Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration. However, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India under its schemes of Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD and Assistance to Central Agencies, provide central financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territories/Central Agencies for development of tourism infrastructure and facilities in the country. Details of tourism projects sanctioned by Government of India under Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD in Uttar Pradesh are at Annexure.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1331 ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019 REGARDING INCLUSION OF MORE COUNTRIES IN 'TOURIST VISA ON ARRIVAL' FACILITY**

Sr. No.	Scheme Name	Name of the Project
1	SWADESH DARSHAN	Development of Buddhist Circuit – Srawasti, Kushinagar, &Kapilvastu in Uttar Pradesh.
2		Development of Chitrakoot and Shringverpur as Ramayana Circuit in Uttar Pradesh
3		Development of Spiritual Circuit (Shahjahanpur-Basti- Ahar-Aligarh- Kasgunj-Sarosi-Pratapgarh-Unnao- Kaushambi- Mirzapur-Gorakpur- Kairana- Doamriyagunj- Bagpat-Barabanki- Azamgarh)
4		Development of Spiritual Circuit –II(Bijnor- Meerut- Kanpur- Kanpur Dehat- Banda- Ghazipur- Salempur- Ghosi- Balia- Ambedkar Nagar- Aligarh- Fatehpur- Deoria- Mahoba- Sonbhadra- Chandauli- Mishrikh- Bhadohi) in Uttar Pradesh under Swadesh Darshan Scheme
5		Development of Heritage Circuit(Kalinjar Fort (Banda)- MarharDham (SantKabir Nagar)- ChauriChaura, Shaheed Sthal (Fatehpur)- MavaharSthal (Ghosi)- Shaheed Smarak (Meerut) in Uttar Pradesh under Swadesh Darshan Scheme
6		Development of Jewar-Dadri-Sikandrabad- Noida-Khurja-Banda in Uttar Pradesh
7		Development of Gorakhnath Temple(Gorakhpur), Devipattan Temple (Balrampur) and Vatvashni Temple (Domariyagunj)
8		Development of Ayodhya under Ramayana Circuit theme of Swadesh Darshan Scheme

9	PRASHAD	Development of Mathura-Vrindavan as Mega Tourist Circuit (Ph-II)
10		Construction of Tourist Facilitation Centre at Vrindavan, Distt. Mathura
11		Development of Varanasi
12		Cruise Tourism in River Ganga, Varanasi
13		Development of Varanasi- Project - II
14		Development of Govardhan, Mathura
