

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1208
ANSWERED ON 19.09.2020**

COMPARISON OF MAJOR TOURISM SECTORS

1208. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has compared the various major tourism sectors all over the world during COVID-19 pandemic and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has any idea that how the informal sector of employment and income sources related to the Tourism sector faced the impact of pandemic in our country and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the schemes and projects that the Government proposes to bring to boost the tourism sector along with its details?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

(a) and (b): No, Sir. Ministry of Tourism has not instituted any formal study for comparing the various major tourism sectors all over the world during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, several rounds of discussions and brainstorming sessions with industry stakeholders indicate massive loss of revenue and jobs.

(c): In order to boost tourism, the Ministry of Tourism has undertaken the following strategies / initiatives:

- i. Regular consultations with industry stakeholders on issues related to post COVID revival of the Tourism sector.**

- ii. Issued operational recommendations for different segments of the travel and hospitality industries for safe resumption of business.**
- iii. Taken various steps like constant dialogue with the Ministry of Home Affairs, State Governments/ Union Territory (UT) Administrations to ensure the safety and security of tourists, including foreign tourists. The Ministry of Tourism has set up a 24x7 Multi-Lingual Tourist Info-Helpline in 12 Languages for domestic and foreign tourists to provide support service in terms of information relating to Travel in India and to offer appropriate guidance to tourists in distress while travelling in India.**
- iv. Launched the Dekho Apna Desh (DAD) initiative in January 2020 with the objective of creating awareness among the citizens about the rich heritage and culture of the country, encouraging citizens to travel widely within the country and enhancing tourist footfalls leading to development of local economy and creation of jobs at the local level. The main focus of this campaign is to rebuild the trust of the domestic & international travelers in terms of India being a safe destination to travel in post Covid scenario. This initiative is being promoted extensively on social media accounts and website of the Ministry and by Domestic India Tourism offices.**
- v. Consulted the industry representatives on the Market Development Assistance Scheme.**
- vi. The Government has announced Atmanirbhar Bharat package vide which Rs 3 lakh crore collateral free automatic loan has been made available for MSMEs. The loan will have 4-year tenure and will have 12-month moratorium. The Government of India has further amended the definition of MSMEs to bring service enterprises at par with manufacturing enterprises. These measures will also benefit tourism service providers.**
