

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.184
ANSWERED ON 14.09.2020**

ASSESSMENT OF TOURISM SECTOR AFTER COVID-19 PANDEMIC

184. SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER:

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

PROF. SAUGATA RAY:

SHRI TALARI RANGAIAH:

SHRI N. REDDEPPA:

SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:

SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV:

DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI:

SHRI ADALA PRABHAKARA REDDY:

SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:

SHRI POCHA BRAHMANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the tourism sector has been badly affected due to Covid-19 pandemic and if so, the details thereof along with the guidelines issued by the Government to ensure safe tourism practices;**
- (b) whether the Government has undertaken any study to estimate the losses including revenue and jobs in the tourism sector as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to announce economic package for the revival of tourism industry and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government has received any representations from the tourism industry regarding relaxation of moratorium and other provisions and if so, the details thereof along with the response of the Government in this regard; and**

- (e) whether the Government has come up with any alternate arrangements in the light of the pandemic to ensure that India becomes a leading tourist destination once international flights are resumed on a regular basis and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, Sir. The sector has been severely impacted by the Corona pandemic.

(b): No formal study has been instituted for assessment of the impact on the Tourism sector and job losses. However, several rounds of discussions and brainstorming sessions with industry stakeholders indicate massive loss of revenue and jobs. In view of the highly unorganized nature of the sector, the impact in numerical terms can only be ascertained in due course.

(c): Various agencies/Ministries of the Government of India have announced stimulus packages which are as under:

- RBI has extended moratorium on term loans till 31st August 2020.**
- The government has further 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 waived off PF contribution for three months for organizations with less than 100 pax and 90% employees having salary below Rs.15000. Under Atmanirbhar Bharat package, PF contribution of both employer and employee has been reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for the next three months i.e. up to September 2020.**
- Deferment of TCS upto October 2020.**
- Return filing deferred for three months with no penal interest for companies upto 5 Crore, rest @ 9% penal interest.**

- **The Central government has also given relief from various regulatory compliances under Income Tax Act, companies Act and GST Act for varying period in the wake of COVID-19 crisis to ensure business continuity and survival.**

(d): All the prominent stakeholders including the CII and FAITH have given representations regarding relaxation of moratorium and other provisions which are being taken up with the concerned Ministries/ Departments of Government of India and The States/UTs on a regular basis.

(e): In order to tap international tourists, the Ministry of Tourism through the India Tourism Offices overseas proposes to undertake various promotional activities which include participation in travel fairs and exhibitions; advertising in the local print, electronic, outdoor and digital media; organizing webinars to highlight success stories around COVID-19 in India to build confidence among foreign tour operators and travellers, organizing Road Shows, India Evenings, Know India Seminars & workshops; organizing and supporting Indian Food Festivals and cultural festivals; offering brochure support to tour operators, and joint advertising/joint promotions with airlines, tour operators and other organizations, joint promotions in collaboration with the Indian Missions abroad etc.

The Ministry has undertaken the following activities / initiatives to promote Domestic Tourism:

- i. Dekho Apna Desh webinars,**
- ii. Aerial Photography of key cities and cultural assets (Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Udupi, Aurangabad, Iconic Tourist sites) across the country during lockdown.**
- iii. regular consultations with industry stakeholders on issues related to opening up of Tourism sector,**
- iv. handling of tourists, protocols of safety and security, service standards etc.**
- v. Domestic Tourism Promotion Campaign through Webinars, social media and other digital platforms.**

Dekho Apna Desh Campaign has been the mainstay of Domestic Promotion. The main focus is to rebuild the trust of the domestic & international travelers in terms of India being the safe destination to travel in post Covid scenario.
