

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2115
ANSWERED ON 08.03.2021**

NEW PROTOCOLS FOR HOTEL INFRASTRUCTURE

2115. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is organizing a series of Webinars on domestic destinations with key nuggets and information under the over- all theme of Dekho Apna Desh (See Your Country) in the light of a long-term lull in overseas travel owing to spread of the pandemic and if so, the action plan and funds allocated in this regard;**
- (b) whether the Ministry plans to promote more secluded micro destinations into its fold across the country including Kerala;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (d) the details of new protocols for the hotel infrastructure and other tourist facilities to be aligned with the needs of a post-corona world?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Tourism has been organising a series of Webinars since 14th April 2020 under the overall theme of 'Dekho Apna Desh' with the objective of promoting various tourism destinations including the lesser known destinations of India including Kerala. The Webinars include glimpses of the culture, heritage, handicrafts and cuisine of the destinations, in addition to the tourist spots. Concepts of Responsible Tourism, Accessible Tourism, Wildlife, Trekking, Bicycling and Motor Cycle Tours, etc. are also been promoted through the Webinars. A total of 79 Webinars have been organised till date. A repository of all the

Webinars is being maintained by the Ministry and YouTube links to the Webinars are made available on the website of Ministry of Tourism. The webinars are organised through the platform of the National e-Governance Division of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology and are on no cost basis.

(d) The Ministry has taken following steps for alignment of hotel infrastructure and other tourist facilities with the needs of a post-corona world:

- Detailed operational guidelines for COVID safety and hygiene for hotels, restaurants, B&Bs/ Home stays and Tourism Service Providers have been formulated and issued on 08.06.2020 to facilitate smooth resumption of business.**
- Validity of approval or certifications of hotels and other accommodation units whose project approval/re-approval and classification/re-classification have expired/ were likely to expire, has been extended upto 30th April, 2021.**
- The Ministry has developed an initiative called SAATHI (System for Assessment, Awareness & Training for Hospitality Industry), 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.**
- Operational Recommendations for safe resumption of business with easing of lockdown restrictions have been issued for various segments of the travel and hospitality industry and circulated amongst all stakeholders.**
