

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3521
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2022**

FACILITIES TO FOREIGNERS

**3521.SHRI SHA.BRA.DR. JAI SIDDESHWAR SHIVACHARYA
MAHASWAMIJI:
SHRI SANGANNA AMARAPPA:
DR. UMESH G. JADHAV:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has detailed record maintained regarding the number of foreigners visiting on a tourist visa;**
- (b) whether there have been instances of tourists willing to settle down in India from the western countries apart from those priests who have come to spread the gospel;**
- (c) whether the Government is willing to float a tour programme for the touring foreigners on lines with the tour programmes for the citizens of this country announced by certain State Governments and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (d) whether the Government is considering to formulate any scheme for the visiting foreigners in the interest of tourism development and facilitation of tourism for foreigners; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Ministry of Tourism does not maintain data regarding tourists willing to settle down in India.

(c), (d) & (e): Ministry of Tourism under its Hospitality Scheme effectively project India as an attractive multi- dimensional tourist

destination offering a vast range of attractions. The invited guests get first-hand information/knowledge of the Indian tourism product and facilities during their familiarization tours under the hospitality programme of the Ministry of Tourism. Hospitality is normally extended to overseas Travel Writers, Journalists, Photographers, Film/TV Teams, Travel agents and Tour Operators, Agencies promoting Incentive/Convention Travel, Opinion Makers/Dignitaries/Celebrities/Speakers and Door Prize/Contest Winners. During the period January-December 2020, guests were invited to cover important events in India, including 5th Statehood Day International Women's Polo Tournament held in Manipur, SATTE (Noida), Outbound Travel Mart (Mumbai) etc.

The Ministry of Tourism, through its India Tourism Offices Overseas along with Indian Missions abroad endeavours to position India as a preferred tourism destination in the tourism generating markets to promote various tourism products and destinations including North Eastern Region and to increase India's share in the global tourism market. The objectives are met through an integrated marketing and promotional strategy, global media campaign and a synergized promotional measure in association with the Travel trade, State Governments and Indian Missions overseas. On the request of Ministry of Tourism, Minister of External affairs has designated Tourism Officers in the Indian Missions of top 20 source markets in October, 2021.

Ministry of Tourism has conducted virtual Road shows- Incredible India Reconnect 2022 to project India as a preferred tourism destination in the tourism generating markets. Ministry of Tourism has conducted successfully various virtual roadshows in Oman, USA, Germany, Australia, Singapore, Thailand, Spain and UK in April – May 2022.

The Ministry of Tourism under the Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Programme extends financial support to approved Tourism Service Providers and State Governments/UT Administrations for undertaking tourism promotion in the overseas markets.
