

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.156
ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025**

DECLINE IN FOREIGN TOURISTS

156. SMT. SAJDA AHMED:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of foreign tourist arrivals in the country during each of the last two years, country-wise;**
- (b) the major reasons for the dip in foreign tourist numbers to different destinations in the country; and**
- (c) the special efforts made or proposed to address the decline in foreign tourists and attract more tourists to visit the country?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): As per data from the Bureau of Immigration, India recorded 9.52 million Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in 2023, reflecting a 47.9% increase compared to 2022. The details FTAs in India during 2022 and 2023 from major countries are given in Annexure.

Ministry of Tourism has taken several steps to attract more foreign tourists in the country as under:

- The Ministry of Tourism under the schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan', 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' and 'Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development' provides financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations/Central Agencies for the development of tourism related infrastructure and facilities at various tourism destinations in the country.**

- **Ministry of Tourism through its various campaigns and events promotes various tourism destinations and products of India in domestic and international markets. Some of the initiatives are Dekho Apna Desh campaign, Chalo India campaign, International Tourism Mart, Bharat Parv.**
- **The Incredible India Content Hub was launched which is a comprehensive digital repository, featuring a rich collection of high-quality images, films, brochures, and newsletters related to tourism in India. Promotions are also carried out through the web-site – www.incredibleindia.org and social media handles of the Ministry.**
- **Thematic tourism like wellness tourism, culinary tourism, rural, eco-tourism, etc. amongst other niche subjects are promoted so as to expand the scope of tourism into other sectors as well.**
- **Enhance the overall quality and visitor experience through initiatives focused on capacity building, skill development such as 'Capacity Building for Service Providers', 'Incredible India Tourist Facilitator' (IITF), 'Paryatan Mitra' and 'Paryatan Didi'.**
- **For improving air connectivity to important tourist destinations, Ministry of Tourism has collaborated with Ministry of Civil Aviation under their RCS-UDAN Scheme. As on date, 53 tourism routes have been operationalized.**
- **e-Visa scheme is now available to 167 countries and it is available for 9 sub-categories:**

- i. **e-Tourist Visa**
- ii. **e-Business Visa**
- iii. **e-Medical Visa**
- iv. **e-Conference Visa**
- v. **e-Medical Attendant Visa**
- vi. **e-Ayush Visa**
- vii. **e-Ayush Attendant Visa**
- viii. **e-Student Visa**
- ix. **e-Student X Visa**

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.156 ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025 REGARDING DECLINE IN FOREIGN TOURISTS RAISED BY SMT. SAJDA AHMED****The Details of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India from major Countries during 2022-2023:**

S. No.	Country	Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs)	
		2022	2023
1	Bangladesh	12,77,557	21,19,826
2	United States	14,03,399	16,91,498
3	United Kingdom	6,41,051	9,20,591
4	Australia	3,76,898	4,56,167
5	Canada	2,89,259	3,85,938
6	Sri Lanka	1,83,459	2,80,327
7	Malaysia	1,26,192	2,62,458
8	Germany	1,41,425	2,23,575
9	Nepal	1,38,203	1,95,445
10	France	1,20,282	1,88,981
11	Singapore	1,32,668	1,83,772
12	Russian Federation	97,911	1,64,125
13	Japan	64,196	1,50,521
14	Thailand	54,367	1,16,060
15	Italy	62,226	1,16,031
16	Rep. of Korea	49,423	97,726
17	Maldives	71,707	83,776
18	Netherlands	55,019	82,047
19	Portugal	69,522	81,916
20	Spain	39,658	73,412
21	New Zealand	54,974	72,458
22	Oman	56,474	71,980
23	United Arab Emirates	43,702	59,480
24	Vietnam	37,232	57,284
25	Myanmar	15,963	51,235
26	Philippines	28,379	50,064
27	Kenya	35,743	49,574
28	Israel	36,418	44,996

29	South Africa	25,860	41,969
30	Switzerland	25,255	41,004
31	Mauritius	24,743	40,442
32	Ireland	30,959	39,166
33	Saudi Arabia	18,513	39,127
34	Belgium	24,172	36,158
35	Iraq	36,277	36,012
36	Sweden	22,372	36,007
37	Poland	18,025	35,457
38	Bhutan	20,772	35,123
39	Turkey	18,996	33,590
40	Indonesia	13,961	32,677
41	China	11,762	30,585
42	Pakistan	16,637	28,329
43	Austria	18,375	27,420
44	Tanzania	18,581	26,790
45	Kazakhstan	9,546	22,342
46	Brazil	12,301	21,977
47	Yemen	19,022	21,400
48	Denmark	12,331	20,200
49	Norway	13,449	20,057
50	Iran	13,064	18,733
51	Mexico	8,915	16,095
52	Egypt	9,612	15,909
53	Sudan	24,930	14,791
54	Bahrain	9,959	13,932
55	Finland	8,781	12,241
56	Czech Republic	6,287	11,656
57	Ukraine	7,304	11,502
58	Nigeria	10,072	11,466
59	Argentina	4,720	9,985
60	Greece	4,988	9,206
61	Hungary	4,298	8,156
62	Afghanistan	1,617	1,204
	Others	2,07,704	3,68,957
	Grand Total	64,37,467	95,20,928

Source: Bureau of Immigration (BOI)
