

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1244**  
ANSWERED ON 02.07.2019

**POPULAR DESTINATIONS FOR TOURIST SPOTS IN THE COUNTRY**

1244. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU:

Will the Minister of **TOURISM** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any increase in the flow of foreign and domestic tourists in the country in the year 2018-19 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of top ten popular destinations in 2018-19 for domestic and foreign tourists, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken or being taken by Government to boost tourism in the country?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) and (b): Assessment of number of tourists at different destinations in States/UTs is compiled in terms of visits in the States/UTs during a calendar year. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India compiles the State/UT wise figures of Domestic Tourist Visits (DTVs) and Foreign Tourist Visits (FTVs) on the basis of information provided by State Governments/ UT Administrations. The DTVs and FTVs during 2017 and 2018 are given in the table below:

**(Figures in million)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>DTVs</b>	<b>FTVs</b>
2017 (provisional)	1652.49	26.89
2018 (estimated)	1852.38	27.39

Top ten States/UTs ranked in terms of estimated DTVs and FTVs during 2018 are as follows:

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>DTVs</b>	<b>FTVs</b>
1	Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu
2	Uttar Pradesh	Maharashtra
3	Karnataka	Uttar Pradesh
4	Andhra Pradesh	Delhi
5	Maharashtra	Rajasthan
6	Telangana	Punjab
7	West Bengal	Kerala
8	Madhya Pradesh	Bihar
9	Gujarat	Goa
10	Rajasthan	Karnataka

(c): Development and promotion of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Government/ UT Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism promotes India as a holistic destination covering its various tourism destinations and products across different States/Union Territories in the country. Ministry has taken several initiatives to boost tourism in the country with the objective of increasing tourist arrivals, which inter-alia include:

- Central Financial Assistance to States/UTs under the schemes of Swadesh Darshan, National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) and Assistance to Central Agencies for the development of tourism related infrastructure in the country.
- Extension of e- visa facility to citizens of 167 countries.
- Launch of the Incredible India 2.0 campaign with market specific promotional plans and content creation.
- Revamping of Incredible India website with the aim to provide more information about India as a tourist destination.
- Launch of 24x7 toll free multi-lingual tourist helpline in 12 International languages including Hindi and English.
- Organisation of annual Global Tourism Mart for India in line with major international travel marts being held in countries across the world. It provides a platform for all stakeholders in tourism and hospitality industries to interact and transact business opportunities.
- Organisation of biennial International Buddhist Conclave.
- Organisation of Annual International Tourism Mart for promotion of tourism in North Eastern States.
- Promotional activities in tourist generating markets overseas through the India Tourism Offices abroad with active participation in travel fairs and exhibitions; organising Road Shows, “Know India” seminars & workshops.

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