

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1252**  
ANSWERED ON 02.07.2019

**AFFORDABLE ACCOMMODATION TO TOURISTS IN INDIA**

1252. DR. SANJAY SINH:

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

- (a) the details of steps being taken for promotion of affordable tourism in India;
- (b) the details of foreign tourists that visited India during 2017-18 and 2018-19;
- (c) whether Government has any roadmap for affordable accommodation to tourists in India;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (e): Construction and operation of hotels is primarily a private sector activity. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, only classifies operational hotels across the country under its voluntary scheme of classification/approval of hotels.

The voluntary scheme of the Ministry of Tourism for approval of hotels at project stage and classification stage stipulate that the hotels of 1, 2, 3 and 4 star categories availing subsidy / tax benefits / other benefits from the Central / State Government would be subject to a lock – in period of 8 years during which they would not seek upgradation to a higher category so that these hotels continue to serve as budget category hotels.

In order to further augment supply of hotel accommodation for budget tourists, both domestic and foreign, the Ministry has voluntary schemes for approval of Guest Houses, Incredible India Bed and Breakfast Establishments and Incredible India Homestay Establishments.

The Ministry of Tourism, has requested the State Governments / UT Administrations to give due weightage to development of mid segment hotels which typically will fall in 3 star and 4 star categories while earmarking /auctioning of land for developing hotels.

The details of foreign tourists that visited India during 2017 and 2018 are as under: -

<b>Year</b>	<b>Foreign Tourist Arrivals to India (in million)</b>
2017	10.04
2018	10.56 (P)

P – Provisional

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