

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*97
ANSWERED ON 11.02.2020

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TOURIST SPOTS IN HIMALAYAN REGION

*97. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that almost all the tourist destinations in the Himalayan region hill States are hitting a saturation point;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to develop new tourist destinations in order to ease the load of the existing ones?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*97 ANSWERED ON 11.02.2020 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TOURIST SPOTS IN HIMALAYAN REGION.

(a) & (b): Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has not undertaken study on saturation of tourist destinations in the Himalayan region hill States. However, data on Domestic Tourist Visits and Foreign Tourist Visits for 2018 for States/UTs in the Himalayan region are given below:

Sr. No.	States/UTs	2018	
		Domestic Tourist Visits	Foreign Tourist Visits
1	Arunachal Pradesh	512436	7653
2	Assam	5856282	36846
3	Himachal Pradesh	16093935	356568
4	Jammu & Kashmir	17076315	139520
5	Manipur	176109	6391
6	Meghalaya	1198340	18114
7	Mizoram	76551	967
8	Nagaland	101588	5010
9	Sikkim	1426127	71172
10	Tripura	414388	102861
11	Uttarakhand	35609650	151320
12	West Bengal	85657365	1617105

(c): Ministry of Tourism, Government of India under its schemes of Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD and Assistance to Central Agencies, provides central financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territories/Central Agencies for development of tourism related infrastructure and facilities to provide an enriching tourism experience to visitors. The projects under the schemes are identified for development in consultation with State Governments/UT Administration.

Further, various steps have been taken by States/UTs in the Himalayan region for identifying, developing and promoting new destinations in order to divert the heavy influx of tourists/pilgrims at existing destinations, some of which are as follows:

- Exploring potential of different types of tourism like rural tourism, adventure tourism etc. by establishing separate dedicated cells
- Launching specific schemes
- Coordinating with various stakeholders for mobilising funds.
- Giving wide publicity of new destinations through electronic/print media, organising festivals etc.
