GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†2709 ANSWERED ON 17.03.2020

CONCESSIONS TO ENCOURAGE TRAVELLING BY ROADS, RAILWAY AND AIRWAYS

†2709. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA:

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

- (a) the details of facilities, amenities and concessions available to encourage people to travel in person, family and in groups by road, railway and airways in the country; and
- (b) the details of existing and proposed 'Yatri Niwas' for next five years along with financial provision made in the budget of current year, State-wise?

ANSWER

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

(a): With a view to providing enhanced amenities and facilities for tourists, Ministry of Tourism has been working closely with the concern related organizations/Ministries/Departments/private stakeholders (Hotel and Trade)/States/UT Administrations continuously and through an Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee for Tourism Sector (IMCCTS) constituted under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary. In addition, Ministry of Tourism has also taken following steps to provide enhanced facilities and amenities for tourists:

- 1. 26 railway stations have been identified for joint development of tourist amenities by the Ministry of Railways (MoR) and Ministry of Tourism (MoT), on 50:50 cost sharing basis. Of these 26 Railway Stations, 21 projects have been sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism at a cost of Rs.105.52 crore as Ministry of Tourism's share.
- 2. With a view to enhancing air connectivity to tourist destinations in the country, Ministry of Tourism has had 46 tourism routes included under the RCS – UDAN 3 Scheme of the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- 3. The Ministry of Tourism has forwarded a list of 50 Tourism Destinations to the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways for improvement of Road Connectivity, development of wayside amenities along the National Highways leading to and from the destinations.
- 4. The Ministry of Tourism has launched the 24x7 Multi-Lingual Tourist Info-Helpline on the toll free number 1800111363 or on a short code 1363 in 12 Languages including 10 international languages and in Hindi & English in February 2016, for domestic and foreign tourists to provide support service in terms of information relating to Travel in India and also offers appropriate guidance to tourists in distress while travelling in India.

(b): Development of tourist accommodation units in the country is primarily undertaken by the private sector. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India classifies operational hotels under its voluntary scheme of classification/approval of hotels. At present the Ministry of Tourism does not implement any scheme to set up Yatri Niwas.
