## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF TOURISM

# RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2716 ANSWERED ON 17.03.2020

#### STATUE OF UNITY

### 2716. SHRI JUGALSINH MATHURJI LOKHANDWALA:

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

- (a) whether the tourism has increased substantially in the area after the Statue of Unity has been opened for visitors and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the revenue generated till now from the visitors to the Statue of Unity;
- (c) whether Government plans to develop the area around the Statue to increase employment and tourism in the surrounding area and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the yearly revenue generation from the major tourist attractions in the country including Taj Mahal?

#### **ANSWER**

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

- (a): Destination wise data on tourist visits is not maintained in Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. However as per the information received from Gujarat State Government, there has been increase in tourists substantially in the area after the Statue of Unity has been opened for visitors. The details are given in Annexure.
- (b): Information on revenue received from tourism is not centrally maintained in Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. However, as per the information received from Gujarat State Government, total income generated at Statue of Unity from selling tickets including parking fees from November, 2018 to February, 2020 works out to Rs. 1,16.31 crore.
- (c): Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration. However, 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 which is expected to generate employment in the area.

As per the information received from Gujarat State Government, recreational places have been developed around the Statue of Unity to increase employment and tourism in the surrounding area. Moreover, local people were employed during the construction of various projects undertaken by various Departments including Tourism Department of the State

Government, Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Rashtriya Ekta Trust etc. At present approximately 3000 persons have been employed as Tourist Guide, Security Guard, Animal Keeper, Operations, Maintenance & Repair Staff, Drivers, Photographers etc.

(d): As per information provided by ASI, the total revenue from ticketed monuments under Archaeological Survey of India has been reported of Rs.247.89 crore in 2017-18, Rs.302.34 crore in 2018-19 and Rs.277.78 crore in 2019-20 (April – January).

\*\*\*\*\*\*

# **ANNEXURE**

# STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2716 ANSWERED ON 17.03.2020 REGARDING STATUE OF UNITY

A: Details of Tourists visited before Statue of Unity was opened			
Sr. No.	year	Total number of tourists visited	Monthly Average
1	2018 ( from January to October, 2018)	5,81,255	58,125
B: Details of Tourists visited after Statue of Unity has been opened			
Sr. No.	Years	Total number Of tourists visited	Monthly
			Average
1	November 2018 to February 2020	42,58,060	2,66,129

\*\*\*\*\*