

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.314**  
ANSWERED ON 15.09.2020

**EFFECT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE TOURISM SECTOR**

314. SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN:

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

- (a) the contribution of the tourism sector to India's economy during the past 5 years;
- (b) the number of jobs and businesses does the sector support;
- (c) how badly has the tourism sector been hit due to the outbreak of COVID-19;
- (d) the plan to revive the sector given the uncertainty about the duration of the crisis; and
- (e) whether any efforts have been made to address the issue, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b): As per estimation in accordance with 3rd TSA for intervening years and subsequent years namely 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 (latest available), the contribution of tourism to GDP and jobs of the country is as given below:

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Share in GDP (in %):	5.81	5.09	5.04	5.00	5.00
Jobs due to tourism (in million)	69.56	72.26	75.71	80.54	88.72

(c): No formal study has been instituted for assessment of the impact on the Tourism sector. However, several rounds of discussions and brainstorming sessions with industry stakeholders indicate massive loss of revenue, foreign exchange and jobs. In view of the highly unorganized nature of the sector, the impact in numerical terms can only be ascertained in due course.

(d) & (e): Ministry of tourism has taken steps to overcome the crisis caused by Covid-19 pandemic in the tourism sector which is given in **Annexure-I**. Further packages are also announced by the various agencies and ministries of Government of India to revive the economy including tourism sector. Details of which are given in **Annexure-II**.

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## **ANNEXURE-I**

### **STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (d) & (e) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.314 ANSWERED ON 15.09.2020 REGARDING EFFECT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE TOURISM SECTOR**

The following steps have been taken by Ministry of Tourism to overcome the crisis caused by Covid-19 pandemic in the tourism sector:

- (i) Detailed operational guidelines for Covid safety and hygiene has been prepared in order to create awareness, training and assessment of compliance of the guidelines. The program is aimed at building the capacity of the Hospitality industry particularly small and medium units to restart and grow their business.
- (ii) A robust information system / comprehensive data base of various accommodation units throughout the country has been created for coordinating and ensuring registration of all unclassified accommodation units.
- (iii) Operational recommendations for hotels, restaurants, B&Bs/ Home stays and Tourism Service Providers have been formulated and issued on 08.06.2020 to facilitate smooth resumption of business.
- (iv) Validity of approval or certifications of hotels and other accommodation units whose project approval / re-approval and classification / re-classification have expired / were likely to expire, has been extended upto 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2020.
- (v) The Ministry, in collaboration with QCI, has developed an initiative called SAATHI (System for Assessment, Awareness & Training for Hospitality Industry), for effective implementation of Guidelines/SOPs issued with reference to COVID 19 and beyond for safe operations of Hotels, Restaurants, B&Bs and other units.

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## **ANNEXURE-II**

### **STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (d) & (e) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.314 ANSWERED ON 15.09.2020 REGARDING LOSS OF REVENUE IN TOURISM SECTOR DUE TO COVID-19**

Packages announced by the various agencies and ministries of Government of India are given below:

- RBI has extended moratorium on term loans till 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020.
- The government has further announced Atmanirbhar Bharat Package vide which Rs 3 lakh crore collateral free automatic loan has been made available for MSMEs. The loan will have 4-year tenure and will have 12-month moratorium.
- The Government waived off PF contribution for three months for organizations with less than 100 pax and 90% employees having salary below Rs.15000. Under Atmanirbhar Bharat package, PF contribution of both employer and employee has been reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for the next three months i.e. up to September 2020.
- Deferment of TCS upto October 2020.
- Return filing deferred for three months with no penal interest for companies upto 5 Crore, rest @ 9% penal interest.
- The Central government has also given relief from various regulatory compliances under Income Tax Act, companies Act and GST Act for varying period in the wake of COVID-19 crisis to ensure business continuity and survival.

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