

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2127  
ANSWERED ON 08.03.2021**

**COMPREHENSIVE POLICY FOR TOURISM SECTOR**

**2127. SHRI MANOJ KOTAK:**

**SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE:**

**SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL:**

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

- (a) whether is it a fact that Government has structured several initiatives and relief measures to boost the tourism in India;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the tourism sector contributes almost 10 per cent to the country's economy;**
- (d) whether the Government is planning to put in place a comprehensive policy for the growth of the tourism sector; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)**

**(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

**(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The initiatives taken by the Ministry of Tourism and relief measures announced under the Atmanirbhar Bharat package are at Annexure.**

**(c): As per estimation in accordance with 3<sup>rd</sup> TSA, the contribution of tourism (direct and indirect) in GDP was 5 per cent in 2018-19.**

**(d)& (e): Yes, sir. The new National Tourism Policy seeks to develop and promote India as a "Must Experience" and "Must Revisit" destination. The policy will target the following eight Strategic Areas:**

- i) Develop Infrastructure- To strengthen Physical, IT and Tourism Infrastructure of tourist destinations.**
- ii) Enhance Visitor Experience- To position India as a welcoming, safe, clean, hygienic and accessible destination.**
- iii) Develop and Diversify Tourism Products: Develop India as a hub of Heritage Tourism, develop various niche tourism products, market specific products and State specific products.**
- iv) Support Business Development - To promote Startups, MSMEs and entrepreneurship in tourism sector, to improve ease of doing business.**
- v) Facilitate Skill Development- To facilitate availability of skilled manpower for tourism sector.**
- vi) Market India- To promote India aggressively in overseas and domestic markets including digital marketing, to position tourism as a vehicle for expanding India's soft power.**
- vii) Assure Quality- To provide for quality assurance and voluntary regulation.**
- viii) To Build Institutional Capacity-- Build institutional capacity and enhance institutional linkages.**

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## **ANNEXURE**

### **STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2127 ANSWERED ON 08.03.2021 REGARDING COMPREHENSIVE POLICY FOR TOURISM SECTOR**

#### **FISCAL AND RELIEF MEASURES UNDER ATMA NIRBHAR BHARAT PACKAGE**

**The stimulus package announced by the Government of India is outlined as under:**

- **RBI has extended moratorium on term loans till 31<sup>st</sup> December 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 organisations less than 100 pax and 90% employees earn 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 Rs.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.**

#### **INITIATIVES TAKEN BY MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

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

- i) **Recognising the fact that revival in the tourism sector will be largely spearheaded by Domestic tourism, the Ministry initiated arranging a series of webinars under**

**the overall theme of Dekho Apna Desh. The objective is to generate awareness and at the same time sustain interest amongst stakeholders, students and the general public.**

- ii) Detailed operational guidelines for Covid safety and hygiene 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.**
- iii) 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> April, 2021.**
- iv) The Ministry 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.**
- v) Operational Recommendations for safe resumption of business with easing of lockdown restrictions have been issued for various segments of the travel and hospitality industry and circulated amongst all stakeholders.**
- vi) Recognition of Travel Agents, Tour Operators, Tourist Transport Operators by the Ministry of Tourism has been extended automatically by six months. Those who have submitted applications for recognition by the Ministry have been given provisional recognition for six months, pending completion of required procedures.**
- vii) The Guidelines of the Marketing Development Assistance Programme under the Overseas Promotion and Publicity Scheme has been modified to enhance the scope and reach of the scheme, so as to provide maximum benefits to the stakeholders in the tourism industry.**

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