

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2388 #**  
ANSWERED ON 16.03.2021

**FUNDS LEFT UNSPENT DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

2388 #.CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SMT. CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI CHH. UDAYANRAJE BHONSLE:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of Tourism be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of funds that could not be spent under the various schemes of the Ministry during last year due to COVID-19;
- (b) the details thereof, scheme-wise;
- (c) whether the development of those areas for which the schemes were introduced has been hampered due to no expenditure on development, maintenance and promotion of the same;
- (d) if so, the steps being taken more swiftly on the schemes to compensate the same; and
- (e) the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) to (e): During the last financial year 2019-20, the Ministry of Tourism was given an allocation of Rs.1416.00 crores by the Ministry of Finance at RE stage out of which Rs.1291 crores was earmarked for various Schemes and the remaining Rs.125.00 crores for Non-Scheme expenditure. Out of the allocation of Rs.1291 crores for Schemes, the Ministry incurred expenditure to the tune of Rs.1287.42 crores, which comes to 99.72% of the RE allocation.

As regards, impact of COVID 19 on implementation of various Schemes during 2019-20, it may be stated that there was no impact of COVID on any Schemes except Overseas Promotion and Publicity wherein the Global Media Campaign was stopped in March 2020.

The COVID 19 Pandemic and the resultant lock down and travel restrictions affected the implementation of the Schemes by the Ministry during 2020-21. The tourism promotion and publicity/events were stopped/reduced considerably due to the Pandemic. On the infrastructure Schemes like Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD, etc. also, construction activities could not show desired progress due to the lockdown.

The Ministry is taking steps to revive the lost momentum in implementation of the Schemes in the tourism sector. The Ministry of Tourism would have to aggressively promote and market India as a preferred destination in 2021-22. Sufficient funds have been earmarked for domestic and overseas promotion during 2021-2022. On infrastructure Schemes also besides close monitoring of implementation, adequate budget provision has also been made during 2021-22 to ensure smooth progress of the on-going projects.

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