

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3197
ANSWERED ON 23.03.2021

ECONOMIC LOSSES FOR THE COMMUNITIES ENGAGED IN TOURISM

3197. SHRI K.K. RAGESH:

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

- (a) whether Government is initiating any study to assess the economic loss for the businesses, households and communities engaged in tourism;
- (b) if so, the detailed report of the study thereof;
- (c) whether any measures to support the tourism businesses and community-based tourism enterprises for revival is under consideration; and
- (d) if so, the detail thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Ministry of Tourism has engaged National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in January, 2021 to conduct study on “India and the Coronavirus Pandemic: Economic Losses for Households Engaged in Tourism and Policies for Recovery”. The objective of this study are as follows:

- Quantify the sector-wise (or industry-wise) direct and indirect impact of tourism activities on overall economy, as a whole and especially on household income, which may be further disaggregated into different types of households like formal and informal.
- Quantify the sector-wise and overall loss in income of the economy and of the household sector and also the loss in jobs, due to the impact of Coronavirus pandemic on the tourism sector.
- Estimate the impact of gradual opening up of domestic tourism activities and of the sectors related to tourism.
- Estimate the likely impact of opening of international tourism, in the phased manner.
- Propose policy measures appropriate to provide relief to the tourism sector, in general, and households involved in tourism related activities, in particular.

The report is awaited from NCAER.

(c) & (d): The details of the steps taken by the Ministry of Tourism to boost the tourism including support to the tourism businesses and community-based tourism enterprises post COVID-19 are given at Annexure.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) & (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3197 ANSWERED ON 23.03.2021 REGARDING ECONOMIC LOSSES FOR THE COMMUNITIES ENGAGED IN TOURISM.

The details of the steps taken by the Ministry of Tourism to boost the tourism including support to the tourism businesses and community-based tourism enterprises post COVID-19 are :

- i. 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.
- ii. 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 30th April, 2021.
- iii. 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.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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.
- vi. The Ministry has modified the guidelines of the Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Programme under which financial assistance is provided to tourism service providers, State Governments and UT Administrations to promote tourism in the overseas markets.
- vii. The Government has revised incentives for MICE events under Champion Services Sector Scheme (CSSS), in order to boost MICE tourism in the country.
