

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3606
ANSWERED ON 20.12.2021**

POLICY FOR WELFARE OF TOURISM EMPLOYEES

3606. SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tourism in Odisha was affected during and post-pandemic;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the losses suffered in the industry;**
- (c) whether the Government has taken measures to revive the tourism industry in Odisha and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government has initiated schemes or policy for the welfare of tourism employees across the country and specifically for Odisha;**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the total beneficiaries thereunder; and**
- (f) the comparative performance of the tourism sector during the years 2020-21 and 2019-20?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (e): The Tourism sector in the country including Odisha was affected due to pandemic. The Domestic and Foreign Tourist visits during the said period registered a decline details of same are given below:

2019		2020		Growth rate	
Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign	DTV	FTV
15307637	115128	4622273	10206	-69.8	-91.14

The details of measures taken by the Ministry of Tourism to revive the tourism industry in the country including Odisha are at Annexure:

(f): The comparative performance of the tourism sector during the years 2019 and 2020 is as follows:

Sl. No.	Parameter	2019	2020
1.	Foreign Tourist Visits (In Million)	31.41	7.17
2.	Domestic Tourist Visits (In Million)	2321.98	610.21
3.	Foreign Exchange Earnings (Rs. in Crore)	211661	50136

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3606 ANSWERED ON 20.12.2021 REGARDING POLICY FOR WELFARE OF TOURISM EMPLOYEES

The details of measures taken by the Ministry of Tourism to revive the tourism industry in the country including Odisha:

- i. The Government announced Atmanirbhar Bharat Package vide which Rs.3.00 lakh crore collateral free automatic loan has been made available for MSMEs. The loan will have 4- year tenure and 12-month moratorium.**
- ii. The Government waived off PF contribution for three months for organisations with less than 100 pax and 90% of their employees earn below Rs.15000.**
- iii. 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 three months.**
- iv. The Central Government also gave 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.**
- v. The RBI extended moratorium on term loans till 31st December 2020.**
- vi. The Government announced the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) 3.0 on 31.3.2021 to support eligible Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and business enterprises in meeting their operational liabilities and restarting their business. The scope of the scheme was enlarged to cover business enterprises in Hospitality, Travel & Tourism and Leisure & Sporting sectors. The validity of ECLGS (ECLGS 1.0, ECLGS 2.0 & ECLGS 3.0) was extended up to 30.06.2021 or till guarantees for an amount of Rs. 3.00 lakh crore are issued. Last date of disbursement under the scheme was extended to 30.09.2021.**
- vii. Ministry of Finance has given concurrence to release Service Exports from India Scheme (SEIS) scrips on 16.06.2021. Earlier, several Industry stakeholders had flagged appeals to the Government to release SEIS Scrips for 2019-20 and DGFT had put a detailed proposal for the allocation for SEIS for exports made during 2019-20. Taking all circumstances into account, the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance has given concurrence to the proposal of Department of Commerce for continuation of SEIS for 2019-20 with a financial allocation of Rs.2061 crore subject to the condition that the amount will be provided through Expenditure Budget following the procedure of providing a New Minor Head.**
- viii. On 28th June 2021, the Government announced a stimulus package to boost diverse sectors of economy affected by COVID-19 pandemic**

and provide impetus for growth and employment measures. The package comprises a total of 17 measures in three broad categories, which included 'Economic relief from Pandemic, with special focus on health and reviving travel and tourism sectors' and 'Impetus for Growth and employment'.

- ix. **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.**
- x. **With a view to prepare for a post-COVID-19 revival, the Ministry has formulated and issued detailed operational guidelines for Covid safety and hygiene for hotels, restaurants, B&Bs/Homestays and Tourism Service Providers on 08.06.2020 to facilitate smooth resumption of business.**
- xi. **An initiative called SAATHI (System for Assessment, Awareness & Training for Hospitality Industry) has been developed 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.**
- xii. **With an aim to incentivize stakeholders in the Tourism industry, the Guidelines for the scheme of Market Development Assistance (MDA) for providing financial support to stakeholders for the promotion of Domestic Tourism have been modified to enhance the scope and reach of the scheme, so as to provide maximum benefits to the stakeholders. Additional promotional activities have been incorporated including online promotions and the extent of financial assistance permissible has been enhanced.**
- xiii. **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.**
- xiv. **Ministry of Tourism has implemented the Loan Guarantee Scheme for Covid Affected Tourism Service Sector (LGSCATSS). Under this scheme, loan upto Rs. 10.00 lakh is extended to each Tour Operators/ Travel Agents/ Tourist Transport Operators approved/ recognized by the Ministry of Tourism. Loan upto Rs. 1.00 lakh is extended to each Regional Tourist Guide/ Incredible India Tourist Guide approved/recognized by the Ministry of Tourism and Tourist Guides approved/ recognized by the State Govt./ UT Administration. Validity of the scheme is till 31.03.2022 or till the guarantee of Rs. 250.00 crores are issued under the scheme.**
- xv. **Government has announced issuing 5 lakh free tourist visas to foreigners coming to India from 15th November 2021.**
