

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2534
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022

IMPACT OF NATURAL DISASTERS ON TOURISM

2534. DR. SANTANU SEN:

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

- (a) whether the occurrence of natural disasters in States/ UTs like Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir etc. has affected the tourist influx in the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any measures to boost tourism at the affected destinations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether disaster risk reduction and management measures have been strengthened at the tourist locations; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) & (b): No States/UTs-specific formal study has been instituted by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India to assess the impact of natural disasters on tourist influx in the country. State/UT wise details of Domestic Tourist Visits (DTV) and Foreign Tourist Visits (FTV) during last three years are at Annexure-I.

(c) & (d): The Ministry of Tourism has taken several steps to boost tourism in the country including affected destinations by natural disaster. The details are given at Annexure-II.

(e) & (f): The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) under Ministry of Home Affairs, is the apex body for disaster management in India. It strives to promote a national resolve to mitigate the damage and destruction caused by natural and man-made disasters, through sustained and collective efforts of all Government agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations and People's participation. It strives to strengthened disaster risk reduction and management measures at all locations including tourist locations in the country.

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2534 ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022 REGARDING IMPACT OF NATURAL DISASTERS ON TOURISM.

DOMESTIC TOURIST VISTIS (DTV_s) AND FOREIGN TOURIST VISTIS (FTV_s) DURING 2018, 2019 & 2020

Sr. No.	States/UTs	2018		2019		2020	
		DTV _s	FTV _s	DTV _s	FTV _s	DTV _s	FTV _s
1	A&N Island	498279	15242	505398	16206	191207	5412
2	Andhra Pradesh	194767874	281083	237051508	280356	70828590	67591
3	Arunachal Pradesh	512436	7653	555639	7825	42871	961
4	Assam	4710617	15592	5447805	26878	1266898	7285
5	Bihar	33621613	1087971	33990038	1093141	5638024	308080
6	Chandigarh	1538796	39681	1563795	44132	417953	12218
7	Chhattisgarh	19329501	14399	17304506	6817	2810227	2322
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	609435	1608	618330	1666	104959	222
9	Daman & Diu	898824	5694	897804	5703	297436	1382
10	Delhi #	29114423	2740502	36467598	2983436	9583671	681230
11	Goa	7081559	933841	7127287	937113	3258715	302751
12	Gujarat	54369873	513113	58864661	595607	19464517	210047
13	Haryana	4888952	73977	4549017	48046	2114731	17474
14	Himachal Pradesh	16093935	356568	16829231	382876	3170714	42665
15	Jharkhand	35408822	175801	35580768	176043	2574704	490
16	J&K	17076315	139520	16163330	57920	2519524	5317
17	Karnataka	214306456	543716	227934714	608754	77453339	165325
18	Kerala	15604661	1096407	18384233	1189771	4988972	340755
19	Lakshdweep	10435	1313	6985	820	3462	413
20	Ladakh	-	-	241285	38652	6743	1126
21	Madhya Pradesh	83969799	375476	88707139	327958	23519632	99819
22	Maharashtra #	119191539	5078514	149294703	5528704	39234591	1262409
23	Manipur	176109	6391	167560	13608	49669	3139
24	Meghalaya	1198340	18114	1245633	25813	24734	2311
25	Mizoram	76551	967	163762	2249	30890	265
26	Nagaland	101588	5010	125949	5577	10979	518
27	Odisha	15208540	110818	15307637	115128	4622273	10206

28	Puducherry	1616660	141133	1713248	149919	1114942	92080
29	Punjab	44595061	1200969	47385387	1101343	16692197	359114
30	Rajasthan	50235643	1754348	52220431	1605560	15117239	446457
31	Sikkim	1426127	71172	1421823	133388	316408	19935
32	Tamil Nadu	385909376	6074345	494865257	6866327	140651241	1228323
33	Telangana	92878329	318154	83035894	323326	39997001	46694
34	Tripura	414388	102861	437201	154405	127815	31877
35	Uttar Pradesh	285079848	3780752	535855162	4745181	86122293	890932
36	Uttarakhand	35609650	151320	37585920	152273	7005264	41339
37	West Bengal	85657365	1617105	92366025	1656145	28841732	463285
	Grand Total	1853787719	28851130	2321982663	31408666	610216157	7171769

Source: States/UTs Tourism Department.

Data for 2019 is estimated by applying all India growth rate for 2019/18 on 2018 data and 2020 data is estimated by applying all India growth rate for 2020/19 on 2019 data

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) & (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2534 ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022 REGARDING IMPACT OF NATURAL DISASTERS ON TOURISM.

The Ministry of Tourism has taken several steps to boost tourism in the country including affected destinations by natural disaster. The details are given below:

- i. 24x7 toll free Multi-Lingual Tourist Helpline to assist tourists.
- ii. Incredible India Tourist Facilitator Programme, a Pan- India digital initiative to provide basic, advanced, spoken foreign language and refresher courses for creating a pool of trained and certified tourist facilitators which would help in creating employment opportunities at the local level.
- iii. Conducting Programmes under the 'Capacity Building for Service Providers' (CBSP) Scheme to train and up-grade manpower to provide better service standards.
- 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. 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.
- vi. 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.
- vii. 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.
- viii. Validity of approval or certification of hotels and other accommodation units whose project approval/re-approval and classification/re-classification have expired/were likely to expire has been extended up to 31st March 2022.
- ix. 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.
- x. Free Tourist Visa to 5 Lakh: As per the announcement, once Visa issuance is restarted, the first 5 lakh Tourists Visas will be issued free of charge. The benefit of free of charge visa will be available only once per tourist during the issuance of the first 5 lakh tourist visas (free of charge visas). The scheme will be applicable till 31st March 2022 or till 5,00,000 visas are issued, whichever is earlier.
- xi. Financial support under the "Loan Guarantee Scheme for Covid Affected Tourism Service Sector (LGSCATSS)". The scheme will cover Regional Level Tourist Guides recognised by the Ministry of Tourism and Tourist Guides recognised by the State Governments/ UT Administrations and Travel and Tourism Stakeholders (TTS) recognized by the Ministry of Tourism. TTS's will be eligible to get a loan upto Rs.10

lakh each while tourist guides can avail loan upto Rs 1 lakh each. There will be no processing charges, waiver of foreclosure / prepayment charges and no requirement of additional collateral. Scheme to be administered by the Ministry of Tourism through NCGTC.

- xii. 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.
