

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2008
ANSWERED ON 13.03.2023**

IMPACT OF RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR ON TOURISM SECTOR

2008. SHRI RAVINDRA KUSHWAHA:

SHRI RAVI KISHAN:

SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Tourism Industry has been hit hard due to the Russia-Ukraine war and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the number of Russian and Ukrainian tourists who visited India during each of the last three years and the current year;**
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the loss of the tourism sector, loss of employment opportunity and tax revenue loss to the Government due to Russia-Ukraine war and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government has also issued any travel advisory to Indian tourists visiting Russia and Ukraine and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether the Government proposes to announce sector specific package for the tourism industry and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (c): No formal study has been instituted by Ministry of Tourism to assess the impact of Russia-Ukraine war on tourism sector. However, as per information received from Bureau of Immigration, the details of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India during 2021 and 2022 is given below:

Year	2021	2022(P)
Foreign Tourist Arrivals in India (in Million)	1.52	6.19

P: Provisional;

There has been a decline in FTAs in India during pandemic. However, there has been a sharp increase in FTAs in India during year 2022 over year 2021 with a growth of 305.4%.

The details of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India from Russia & Ukraine during 2020 to 2022 and January 2023 are given below:

Year	Russia	Ukraine
2020	102166	10619
2021	17567	5197
2022 (P)	95522	6478
Jan 2023 (P)	25843	938

(P): Provisional

Source: Bureau of Immigration

(d): As per information received from Embassy of India, Kyiv, Ukraine, keeping in view the security situation in Ukraine, Mission had issued travel advisories on February 28, October 10, 19 & 25, 2022 to all Indian nationals to leave Ukraine immediately and advised against travelling to Ukraine. The situation continues to remain uncertain and volatile.

(e): No sector specific package is announced by Government of India in the wake of Russia-Ukraine war. However, Government of India announced several fiscal and non-fiscal relief measures for post-covid recovery of tourism sector which is placed at Annexure.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2008 ANSWERED ON 13.03.2023 REGARDING IMPACT OF RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR ON TOURISM SECTOR

The following are the various fiscal and non-fiscal relief measures announced by the Government for redeveloping post-covid tourism sector of the country:

- 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. Under Atmanirbhar Bharat package, PF contribution of both employer and employee had been reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for three months.**
- iii. Return filing deferred for three months with no penal interest for companies up to Rs.5.00 Crore, rest @ 9% penal interest.**
- 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 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. Provision of additional corpus of Rs.50,000 crores have also been made for hospitality sector. The validity of ECLGS (ECLGS 1.0, ECLGS 2.0 & ECLGS 3.0) has been extended till 31.03.2023 or till guarantees for an amount of Rs.5.00 lakh crore are issued.**
- vi. 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'.
- vii. **Ministry of Tourism launched 'Loan Guarantee Scheme for Covid Affected Tourism Service Sector (LGSCATSS)', which aims at extending collateral free loan to the distressed tourism sector to help them discharge their liabilities and restart their business affected due to Covid-19 pandemic. Under this scheme, collateral free Loan upto Rs.10.00 lakh each may be availed by MoT approved Tour operator/ Travel Agents/ Tourist Transport Operators and upto Rs.1.00 lakh each may be availed by RLGs/IITGs approved by MoT and Tourist Guides approved by State Government/UT Administration. The scheme is already operational through 18 Scheduled Commercial Banks. Validity of the scheme has been extended by one more year i.e. till 31st March, 2023 or till the guarantee of Rs.250.00 crore are issued under the scheme.**
 - viii. **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&B sand other units.**
 - ix. **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 was extended up to 31st March 2022.**
 - x. **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. 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 stake holders in the tourism industry.**
 - xi. **For the purpose of restarting inbound tourism and attracting foreign tourists in the country, Government of India extended first 5 lakh visas to the foreign tourists from potential tourism markets, free of cost. The benefit of free of charge visa was**

available only once per tourist during the issuance of the first 5 lakh tourist visas.

- xii. Owing to the situation which arose out of COVID-19 pandemic, Ministry of Tourism in consultation with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare issued guidelines/directions to the Tourism Stakeholders, Hotels and Restaurants to facilitate smooth resumption of business.**
- xiii. Ministry of Home Affairs restored- Tourist Visa for foreign nationals of 156 countries w.e.f. 15th March, 2022. Also, after having recognized the increased vaccination coverage across the globe and in consultation with the stakeholders, the Government of India resumed scheduled commercial international passenger services to/from India w.e.f. 27th March, 2022.**
