

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2697#**  
ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023

**NUMBER OF FOREIGN TOURISTS**

2697# SHRI NARHARI AMIN:

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

- (a) the total number of foreign tourist visiting India after Corona period;
- (b) whether any increase has been reported in the number of foreign tourists after Corona period;
- (c) whether Government is working on any scheme to encourage footfall of foreign tourists in the country;
- (d) whether any special facility has been introduced at airports and railway stations for the convenience of international tourists, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the total number of foreign tourists visiting Gujarat during the last two years?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) & (b): The details of month-wise Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India during 2020 to 2022 is placed at Annexure. There were 10.93 million Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India during pre-pandemic year 2019. Tourism Industry has shown good signs of revival after Covid-19 pandemic. According to latest information received from Bureau of Immigration, India received 6.19 million Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) during 2022 as compare to 1.52 million during the same period of 2021.

(c): The Ministry of Tourism undertakes several promotional activities in potential international & domestic markets to promote various tourism destinations and products of the country in holistic manner. This includes release of media campaigns under 'Incredible India' brand-line, social media promotions, webinars, participate on & support to promotional events, dissemination of information and engagement through website etc. In addition, the India tourism overseas offices of the Ministry of Tourism and Indian Missions overseas also undertake various promotional activities to attract more global travelers to various tourist destinations of the country.

Post-Covid, to revive 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. The scheme was valid till 31.03.2022.

The visa fee has been rationalized and has been fairly reduced wherein e-Tourists Visa fee reduced to \$80 for 5 years, \$40 for 1 year and one-month e-tourist Visa fee reduced

to \$10 for lean season and \$25 for peak season. Indian e-Tourist Visa facility is available under 5 sub-categories i.e 'e-Tourist visa', 'e-Business visa', 'e-medical visa', 'e-Medical Attendant Visa' and 'e-Conference Visa' for national of 166 countries. The e-Visa is valid for entry through 29 designated Airports and 5 designated seaports.

For a better and smooth travel experience of Tourists in the Restricted/Protected areas of the country, Ministry of Tourism regularly coordinates with Ministry of Home Affairs and as a result, Ministry of Home Affairs has relaxed the Protected Area Permit (PAP) /Restricted Area Permit (RAP) for a further period of 5 Years i.e. till 31.12.2027 for the identified Islands in the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Effective and adequate connectivity is one of the important aspect for developing a tourist destination. For this purpose, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Govt. of India has launched RCS-UDAN scheme, whose primary objective is to facilitate/stimulate regional air connectivity by making it affordable. M/o Tourism has collaborated with the Ministry of Civil Aviation to extend financial support in the form of Viability Gap Funding (VGF) under the Champion Service Sector Scheme (CSSS), with the purpose of further improving connectivity to important tourist places including Iconic sites. At present, 59 Tourism RCS (T-RCS) routes have been approved by the Ministry of Tourism, out of which 51 are already operational.

(d): Ministry of Tourism extends financial assistance to Ministry of Railways for joint development of tourist amenities at 22 identified railway stations under the Scheme of “Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development”. Under this scheme financial support is extended to Ministry of Railways for development of tourist amenities & facilities at identified Railway Station on 50:50 cost sharing basis with the Ministry of Railways.

Tourist Facilitation and Information Counter is currently available at 9 airports viz. New Delhi, Varanasi, Bodhgaya, Bangalore, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai, Guwahati and Hyderabad. These Information counters caters to English as well as non-English speaking tourists, as it is also connected to the 24x7 Helpline – ‘1363’ of the Tourism Ministry where the tourists can speak directly with the foreign language agents and get guidance in French, Spanish, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Japanese, Korean, Chinese and Arabic.

The e-Visa is valid for entry through 29 designated Airports and 5 designated seaports.

(e): The details of Foreign Tourist Visits (FTVs) in State of Gujarat during 2021 and 2022 are given below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Foreign Tourist Visits</b>
2021	11319
2022*	2195996

Source: State Tourism Department

\*: Provisional

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**ANNEXURE**

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2697# ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023 REGARDING NUMBER OF FOREIGN TOURISTS.**

Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India during 2020, 2021 and 2022

<b>Month</b>	<b>Foreign Tourist Arrivals</b>		
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022 @</b>
January	11,19,250	94,662	2,01,546
February	10,18,440	1,10,312	2,40,896
March	3,28,304	1,33,768	3,42,308
April	2,820	78,718	3,92,930
May	3,764	19,765	4,23,701
June	8,590	36,070	5,22,737
July	12,655	72,501	6,40,858
August	19,761	92,728	4,98,243
September	28,167	1,15,661	5,36,340
October	41,494	1,91,415	6,56,895
November	70,977	2,63,867	7,68,675
December	90,544	3,17,647	9,66,270
<b>Total(Jan-Dec)</b>	<b>27,44,766</b>	<b>15,27,114</b>	<b>61,91,399</b>

@Provisional

Source: Bureau of Immigration

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