

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2375
ANSWERED ON 18.12.2023**

IDENTIFICATION OF MEGA-TRENDS TO SHAPE TOURISM SECTOR

2375.SHRI K. NAVASKANI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country's tourism industry is on track to reach USD 1 trillion by 2047;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to identify mega-trends expected to shape the tourism sector over the next decade?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (c): As per the study "India and the Coronavirus Pandemic: Economic Losses for Households Engaged in Tourism and Policies for Recovery", conducted by Ministry of Tourism, it is expected that tourism economy, in terms of tourism expenditure, will regain its pre-pandemic level by 2024-25, primarily driven by domestic tourism and it is likely to grow by 4 times the pre-pandemic level, by 2028-29.

The contribution of tourism to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country is given below:

Indicator	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Total Tourism GDP (Rs. crore)	1041747.04	297432.99	415689.03
Total Tourism share in GDP (%)	5.18	1.50*	1.77

Source: National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) computations using National Account Statistics 2023 and Third Tourism Satellite Account - 2015-16.

***The decline in the share of tourism GDP and tourism employment is due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

The Ministry of Tourism has taken several measures to give boost to the tourism sector and in turn increase its contribution to country's economy and generate employment opportunities through tourism details are given in the Annexure.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2375 ANSWERED ON 18.12.2023 REGARDING IDENTIFICATION OF MEGA-TRENDS TO SHAPE TOURISM SECTOR BY SHRI K. NAVASKANI

- i. Development of tourism related infrastructure through projects sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme. The Ministry of Tourism has revamped its Swadesh Darshan Scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible destinations following a tourist & destination centric approach.**
- ii. Development of tourism related infrastructure through projects sanctioned under the National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) Scheme.**
- iii. Dekho Apna Desh initiative launched with the objective to encourage citizens to travel within the country.**
- iv. Thematic tourism like wellness tourism, culinary tourism, rural, eco-tourism, etc. amongst other niche subjects are promoted so as to expand the scope of tourism into other sectors as well.**
- v. Ministry of Tourism promotes Niche Tourism products such as Cruise, Adventure, Medical and Wellness, Golf, Polo, Meetings Incentives Conferences & Exhibitions (MICE), Eco-tourism, Film Tourism, Sustainable Tourism and Rural Tourism to overcome the aspect of 'seasonality' and to promote India as a 365 days' destination.**
- vi. On the request of the Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of External Affairs has designated Tourism Officers in 20 Indian Missions overseas for promoting India as a tourism destination in these important markets.**
- vii. Providing facility of e-Visa for seven sub-categories i.e. e-Tourist Visa, e-Business Visa, e-Medical Visa, e-Medical Attendant Visa, E-Conference Visa, e-Ayush Visa and e-Ayush Attendant Visa for nationals of 167 countries.**
- viii. E-Visa has been liberalized and the visa fee has been substantially reduced.**
- ix. Lowering of GST on hotels rooms with tariffs of ₹1,001 to ₹7,500/night to 12%; those above ₹7,501 to 18% to increase India's competitiveness as a tourism destination.**
- x. Ministry of Tourism has collaborated with Ministry of Civil Aviation under their RCS-UDAN Scheme. As on date, 53 tourism routes have been operationalized to improve air connectivity to tourist destinations in the country.**
- xi. Ministry of Tourism is running Pan-India Incredible India Tourist Facilitator (IITF) Certification Program, a digital initiative that aims at creating an Online learning platform with the objective of creating a**

pool of well trained and professional Tourist Facilitators/Guides across the country and generating employment opportunities at local level.

- xii. Conducting Programmes under the 'Capacity Building for Service Providers' (CBSP) Scheme to train and up-grade manpower to provide better service standards.**
