

India's initiative of setting up Dashboard for Global Best Practices receives robust support and commendation at G-20 Ministerial Meeting in Brazil

Union Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat reiterates India's Commitment for Green Tourism

Highlights the vital role of Tourism and Culture in Sustainable Socio-Economic Development

Shri Shekhawat Engages in Bilateral Talks to Enhance Global Tourism Collaboration

Posted On: 21 SEP 2024 8:22PM by PIB Delhi

Union Minister of Tourism and Culture, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat delivered his country statement at the G-20 Ministerial Meeting held on September 21, 2024, in Belem, Brazil, highlighting the significance of tourism in driving economic development, fostering social inclusion and promoting environmental sustainability for the benefit of people, planet and prosperity. Successful deliberations were held during the Tourism Ministers Meeting on Green Tourism, support for data driven decision making, for strengthening the Dashboard developed during India's G20 stewardship for aggregating best practices, importance of skilling of human capital for global service delivery, supporting MSMEs for generating local employment as well as for effective Destination Management.





In his statement, the Minister acknowledged the efforts of Brazil and all G20 member nations in advancing the tourism agenda set during India's G20 Presidency. He reiterated the commitment of India in pushing the agenda for green tourism and embracing the collective power of collaboration and innovation to ensure that tourism continues to serve as driver of growth, employment and all over prosperity.

Shri Shekhawat emphasized the vital role of tourism and culture in sustainable socio-economic development and nature positive tourism. The G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration and the 'Goa Roadmap for Tourism, which were the outcomes of the Tourism Track meetings during India's Presidency are imperative for taking forward the agenda for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He stressed the need for tourism policies to focus on inclusion and resilience, in line with India's theme: Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam – "One Earth, One Family, One Future."



India had outlined five key areas for sustainable tourism: Green Tourism, Digitalization, Skills Development, Tourism MSMEs and Destination Management, which have taken forward during the Brazil Presidency. These five priority areas received support and remain essential to address future challenges in tourism.

The Travel for LiFE program was introduced as a part of Mission LiFE, a global movement led by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. This initiative prioritizes Green Tourism to promote environmental sustainability through tourism.

India supported the UNWTO's initiative for a Statistical Framework as a knowledge hub for aggregating global best practices and case studies and to measure tourism sustainability. The progress made under Brazil's Presidency in this context was also duly acknowledged. The Minister expressed optimism that today's discussions would help build empowered communities and improve quality of life, calling for continued collaboration and innovation to ensure tourism drives growth and contributes to sustainable development. He thanked Brazil for steering the G20 Ministerial deliberations in Belem and conveyed his best wishes to South Africa for their G20 Presidency and expressed a desire to synergise country and stakeholder efforts for better and more robust outcomes.

Shri Shekhawat also participated in the two ministerial dialogues of the UN Forum and WTTC.



Minister at the UN Tourism Forum Dialogue

On the sidelines of the G20 Tourism Ministers Meeting, Union Minister, Shri Gajendra Shekhawat held bilateral talks with his counterparts from Brazil, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, UAE, Singapore, Spain, Japan, Czech and pull aside with USA to discuss issues for facilitating tourist flows as well as other issues of significance to tourism sector. The Minister was accompanied by the Director General, Tourism, Ms Mugdha Sinha, DCM Brazil, Mr Pradhan, Sandeep Singh.



Bilateral Meeting with Brazilian Minister Mr Celso Sabino



Bilateral Meeting with Saudi Arabia



Bilateral Meeting with Singapore Minister of Trade and Industry



Bilateral Meeting with Minister Tourism Spain

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(Release ID: 2057411)