GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF TOURISM

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†3593 ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025

LEISURE TOURISM

†3593. SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH GANGWAR: SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been an increase or decrease in the number of tourist arrivals in the country, particularly in the leisure tourism sector during the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the key factors influencing these trends, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has set any long-term targets for attracting foreign tourists in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details of the initiatives and schemes being implemented to achieve these goals?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): The details of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India and percentage share of leisure tourists during the last five years is given below:

Year	FTAs (in lakh)	% of Leisure Holiday and Recreation
2020	27.45	58.4
2021	15.27	5.8
2022	64.37	36.5
2023	95.21	46.2
2024	99.52	45.0

Source: Bureau of Immigration

The growth in Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) is mainly driven by the postpandemic revival of global travel and increasing confidence in India as a diverse and culturally rich destination. Enhanced air connectivity has improved accessibility to key tourist spots, while continuous development of tourism infrastructure has elevated the visitor experience. Additionally, targeted domestic and international marketing campaigns have strengthened India's global appeal, positioning it as a premier destination for travelers worldwide.

Ministry of Tourism has taken several measures/initiatives over the years to increase tourist arrivals in the country, details of which are:

- The Ministry of Tourism under the schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan', 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' and 'Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development' provides financial assistance to State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations/Central Agencies for the development of tourism related infrastructure and facilities at various tourism destinations in the country.
- Ministry of Tourism through its various campaigns and events promotes various tourism destinations and products of India in domestic and international markets. Some of the initiatives are Dekho Apna Desh campaign, International Tourism Mart, Bharat Parv etc.
- Thematic tourism like wellness tourism, culinary tourism, rural, ecotourism, etc. amongst other niche subjects are promoted so as to expand the scope of tourism into other sectors as well.
- Enhance the overall quality and visitor experience through initiatives focused on capacity building, skill development such as 'Capacity Building for Service Providers', 'Incredible India Tourist Facilitator' (IITF), 'Paryatan Mitra' and 'Paryatan Didi'.
- e-Visa scheme is now available to 171 countries and it is available for
 9 sub-categories:
 - i. e-Tourist Visa
 - ii. e-Business Visa
 - iii. e-Medical Visa
 - iv. e-Conference Visa
 - v. e-Medical Attendant Visa
 - vi. e-Ayush Visa
 - vii. e-Ayush Attendant Visa
 - viii. e- Student Visa
 - ix. e-Student X Visa
