

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*407
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2019**

INFLOW OF TOURISTS

***407. DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a decrease in arrival of foreign tourists in the country over the past few years;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps being taken by the Government to address this issue; and**
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to enhance the tourism potential of the country?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *407 ANSWERED ON 22.07.2019
REGARDING INFLOW OF TOURISTS**

(a) to (c): No, Sir. The Foreign Tourist Arrivals in India during 2016, 2017 and 2018 were 8.80 million, 10.04 million and 10.56 million (provisional) respectively.

Development and promotion of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Government/ UT Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism promotes India as a holistic destination covering its various tourism destinations and products across different States/Union Territories in the country.

Ministry has taken several initiatives to boost tourism in the country, which inter-alia include:

- Central Financial Assistance to States/UTs under the schemes of Swadesh Darshan, National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) and Assistance to Central Agencies for the development of tourism related infrastructure in the country.**
- Extension of e- visa facility to citizens of 167 countries.**
- Launch of the Incredible India 2.0 campaign with market specific promotional plans and content creation.**
- Revamping of Incredible India website with the aim to provide more information about India as a tourist destination.**
- Launch of 24x7 toll free multi-lingual tourist helpline in 12 International languages including Hindi and English.**
- Organisation of annual Global Tourism Mart for India in line with major international travel marts being held in countries across the world. It provides a platform for all stakeholders in tourism and hospitality industries to interact and transact business opportunities.**
- Organisation of biennial International Buddhist Conclave.**

- **Organisation of Annual International Tourism Mart for promotion of tourism in North Eastern States.**
- **Promotional activities in tourist generating markets overseas through the India Tourism Offices abroad with active participation in travel fairs and exhibitions; organising Road Shows, “Know India” seminars & workshops.**
