

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:395

ANSWERED ON:19.02.2009

VISIT INDIA

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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian hospitality industry is now facing recession due to international slowdown;
- (b) if so,the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has announced any scheme in the name of 'Visit India-2009' to boost the hospitality industry;
- (d) if so, the details of the scheme; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) and (b): There has been a decline in foreign tourist arrivals and foreign exchange earnings from tourism as detailed below:

	November 2008	December 2008	January 2009
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Foreign Tourist Arrivals	521247	521990	487262
Percentage change over corresponding month of previous year	-2.1%	-12.5%	-17.6%
Foreign Exchange Earnings (in US\$ million)@	1005	1046	941
Percentage change over corresponding month of previous year	-12.5%	-18.7%	-31.9%
Provisional Estimates	@ Advance Estimates		

(c) to (e): A "Visit India 2009" Scheme has been announced by the Ministry of Tourism,in collaboration with all stakeholders including airlines, hotels, tour operators, State Governments for incentivising travel to India during the period April to December 2009.