

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:723

ANSWERED ON:12.11.2010

NUMBER OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN TOURISTS VISITING RELIGIOUS PLACES

Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of domestic and foreign tourists visited religious places in various States during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the types of hospitality and health service available at their place;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to encourage private sector to invest in budget accommodation and hospitality facilities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED)

(a) to (d): Ministry of Tourism does not compile data on tourist visits to religious places in various States. However, total number of domestic and foreign tourist visits including visits for religious purposes, to different States and UTs during 2007 to 2009 are given in Annexure.

Development and promotion of tourism, including granting industry status to the tourism sector, is undertaken primarily by the State Governments/ UT Administrations. However, Govt. of India supplements the efforts of the State Govts/ UT Administrations in encouraging the tourism sector by providing various incentives to tourism and hospitality establishments like tax holidays for new hotels and convention centres, facilitating foreign direct investment (FDI) and credit availability for hotels & tourism related industries, etc.