GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TOURISM LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1641
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2010
FOREIGN TOURISTS ARRIVAL DURING COMMONWEALTH GAMES
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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the expected number of foreign tourist arrival to Delhi during Commonwealth Games, 2010 and the actual figure thereof;
- (b) the quantum of amount spent by the Ministry during the said Games;
- (c) the details of actions taken by the Government to upgrade the hospitality sector including provision of additional rooms, bed and breakfast facility, etc. and cost involved both from the Government Sector and the private sector;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to compensate the private sector for the loss incurred especially under the Bed and Breakfast Scheme;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the impact of less inflow of tourists on tourism industry during the said Games; and
- (g) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (g): The CWG 2006, Melbourne - 2006 had attracted 90,000 visitors and it was expected that around one lakh visitors (domestic and foreign) would come to Delhi for the CWG, 2010.

As per the information of the Bureau of Immigration, the total number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) at Delhi airport during 1st to 14th October 2010 was 75,606. The estimated FTAs in Delhi during October 2010 registered an increase of 5.1% compared to the previous year.

Development and promotion of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations. Ministry of Tourism (MoT), however, provides financial assistance to them for tourism projects based on proposals received, subject to availability of funds and inter- se priority.

No additional funds were specifically allocated to MOT for the CWG 2010 for 'development of tourism infrastructure', 'publicity & promotion' and 'capacity building for service providers' and the expenditure incurred is within the existing budget of MOT as per the extant scheme guidelines.

The MoT during the first four years of the 11th Five Year Plan Period (up to 30-09-2010) has sanctioned funds amounting to Rs.75.19 crore to Delhi for development of tourism infrastructure under its various ongoing schemes.

The MoT undertakes a series of promotional activities in overseas market with the objective of increasing foreign tourist arrivals to the country. The publicity and promotion of CWG 2010 was included in these ongoing activities.

In addition, with a view to augment and upgrade the accommodation for the Games, the MoT provided skill development training to the service providers, Guest House owners/staff, student volunteers, etc.

The guidelines for the approval of 'Guest Houses' and 'Bed & Breakfast (B&B) establishments' were also relaxed as the CWG 2010 was an opportunity to showcase Delhi as a tourism destination.

Further, the Govt. of NCT of Delhi decided that (i) domestic water and power tariff would be levied on the B&B Establishments and;(ii) no luxury tax would be applicable to such establishments and (iii) no property tax would be levied as on tenanted premises on pro-rata basis.