

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:172

ANSWERED ON:22.02.2013

FOREIGN TOURIST INFLOW

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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Foreign Tourist inflow has declined sharply in the country during the year 2012;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of Foreign Tourist Visits (FTVs) in the country along with the earnings of foreign exchange therefrom during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has fixed any target in this regard and if so, the details thereof including the measures taken by the Government to achieve the target; and
- (e) the other measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to boost tourist inflow in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI)

(a) and (b) No, Madam.

The number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India during 2012 (Provisional) were 6.65 million registering a positive growth of 5.4% over 2011.

(c) The number of Foreign Tourist Visits (FTVs) to different States and Union Territories (UTs), during 2009, 2010 and 2011 are given in Annexure. This information for all States/UTs for the years 2012 and 2013 is not available.

The Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEEs) from tourism for the country as a whole during 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 are estimated at Rs.53,700 crores, Rs.64,889 crores (Provisional), Rs.77,591 crores (Provisional) and Rs.94,487 crores (Provisional), respectively. The Ministry of Tourism does not compile State-wise estimates of FEE from tourism.

(d) The Working Group on Tourism for 12th Five Year Plan, set up by the Planning Commission, has recommended to increase India's share of International Tourist arrivals to at least 1 % by end of 12th Plan from the level of 0.63% in 2011.

To boost tourism, the Ministry of Tourism, as part of its on-going activities, releases print, electronic, online and outdoor media campaigns in the international and domestic markets, under the Incredible India brand-line, to promote various tourism destinations and products of the country. In addition, a series of promotional activities are undertaken in important and potential tourist generating markets overseas through the Indiatourism Offices abroad with the objective of showcasing India's tourism potential. These promotional activities include participation in travel fairs and exhibitions; organising road shows, workshops; organizing and supporting Indian food and cultural festivals; publication of brochures; offering joint advertising and brochure support and inviting media personalities, tour operators and opinion makers to visit the country under the Hospitality Programme of the Ministry.

(e) Other efforts made by Ministry of Tourism to boost tourist inflow include promoting Safe & Honourable tourism, improving the facilities for foreign and domestic tourists, creation/upgradation of tourism infrastructure, wayside amenities, providing last mile connectivity, increasing the availability of budget accommodation and trained manpower, etc.