

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4196
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2013
TOURISM ROLE IN COUNTRY S ECONOMY
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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tourism plays a vital role in boosting the economy of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the contribution of tourism in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employment of the country;
- (c) whether the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) has encouraged the use of environmental clause for international tourism, particularly in developing countries;and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government to encourage the use of environmental clause in the development and promotion of tourism in the country?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Madam. As per the 2nd Tourism Satellite Account of India 2009-10, the contribution of Tourism in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employment of the Country, in 2009-10, has been estimated to be 6.8% and 10.2%, respectively.

(c) As the leading international organization in the field of tourism, UNWTO promotes tourism as a driver of economic growth, inclusive development and environmental sustainability and offers leadership and support to the sector in advancing knowledge and tourism policies worldwide.

UNWTO encourages the implementation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, to maximize tourism's socio-economic contribution while minimizing its possible negative impacts, and is committed to promoting tourism as an instrument in achieving the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), geared towards reducing poverty and fostering sustainable development.

(d) The Ministry of Tourism has a mandate to promote Tourism in the country in a sustainable and responsible manner. Eco-Tourism is one of the emerging segments of Tourism in India. The Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance to various State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations for Eco-Tourism projects on the basis of proposals received from them subject to adherence to scheme guidelines, availability of funds and inter-se priority.

Various State Governments/UT Administrations are required to obtain necessary pollution control, Forest, Coastal Zone Regulation and Environmental clearances for implementing any project that has impact on environment.