

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2423
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2017
Modernisation of Tourist Spots in Amritsar
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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that tourist spots in Punjab State particularly at Amritsar are not properly maintained resulting in drop in tourists especially foreign tourists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government in consultation with State Government proposes to modernize and maintain tourist spots in Punjab particularly at Amritsar; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the financial allocations made for their maintenance during the current financial year?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (d): As per the data available with the Ministry a growth rate of 172% in Foreign Tourists Arrivals (FTA's) is observed in 2016 as compared to 2015 in Punjab.

The State Government of Punjab has informed that the following initiatives for development of tourism are being taken:-

Out of the total project cost on the Bhagwan Valmiki Tirth Sthal (Ram Tirath) at Amritsar which is Rs.204.92 crore, they are incurring an amount of Rs.188.62 crore, while they have received Rs.6.45 crore from the Ministry of Tourism under the PRASAD Scheme.

Under the ADB Assisted Projects (IDIPT) they are undertaking land scape development, reuse of historic building, conservation works at Gobindgarh Fort at Amritsar at a cost of Rs.76.22 crore.

Executing projects with the assistance of ADB aimed at conservation of important tourist sites across Punjab, besides development of utilities at tourist locations given in the project. Under this project major activities taken up are Conservation, renovation and Town Hall Amritsar, Darbar Hall-Kapurthala, Tombs and Rauza Sharif in Fatehgarh Sahib and Reuse at Rambagh Palace.

Eco-tourism Development is being undertaken at Ropar and Harike Wetlands, and Development of Chatbir Zoo.

Interpretation Centres at Chamkaur Sahib. Conservation and adaptive reuse of town hall and historic building along with heritage walk in Amritsar.

Heritage conservation and tourism development in Gurdaspur district, Conservation and adaptive reuse of Colonial heritage in Kapurthala- Gol Kothi, Gulabi Kothi and Buggy Khana.

In order to ensure proper maintenance of the heritage, the Government of Punjab has established Amritsar Culture and Tourism Development Authority for preservation, maintenance, cleanliness, provision for supply of essential services like electricity, water supply, beautification and monument lighting, sanitation, proper maintenance of roads and disposal of solid waste in the vicinity and around the Sri Golden Temple, Sri Durgiana Mandir, Ram Tirath Mandir, Gobindgarh Fort, Town Hall, Panorama, Urban Hatt etc.
