

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3614
ANSWERED ON 15.07.2019**

INFLUX OF TOURISTS

**3614. SHRI HANS RAJ HANS:
SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether inflow of foreign tourists has not been steadily increasing due to consistent declination of tourism sector;**
- (b) if so, the number of foreign tourist who visited India during the last three years;**
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to improve the infrastructure of the places of tourist interest in order to attract more number of foreign tourists; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

(a) and (b): No, Sir. The Foreign Tourist Arrivals in India during 2016, 2017 and 2018 were 8.80 million, 10.04 million and 10.56 million (provisional) respectively.

(c) and (d): Development and promotion of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Government/UT Administration. However, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has taken several steps for creation of tourism infrastructure in the country so as to attract more tourists, which inter-alia include:

- i. Launched two flagship schemes: Swadesh Darshan - Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits and PRASHAD- Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual,**

Heritage Augmentation Drive. The projects under these schemes are identified for development in consultation with the State Governments /UT Administrations and are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, submission of suitable detailed project reports, adherence to scheme guidelines and utilization of funds released earlier.

- ii. Pursuant to the Budget Announcements of 2018-19, this Ministry has identified 17 sites in 12 clusters in the country for development as Iconic Tourist Sites.**
- iii. The 'Adopt A Heritage: Apni Dharohar, Apni Pehchaan', a collaborative effort by Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture and Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), State/UTs Governments, envisages developing heritage sites and making them tourist friendly, to enhance tourism potential and cultural importance in a planned and phased manner.**
- iv. Ministry provides Assistance to Central Agencies for the development of tourism related infrastructure in the country.**
