

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION. No.2547#**  
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022

**FLOW OF FOREIGN TOURISTS**

2547# SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

Will the Minister of **TOURISM** be pleased to state:

- (a) foreign tourists having visited the country, during the years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20, State-wise figures thereof;
- (b) quantum of foreign currency earned through tourism, during above three years, year-wise;
- (c) the quantum of funds released for the conventional centre at Bodh Gaya in Bihar and details of physical and financial progress made thereon; and
- (d) the efforts being made by Government to increase the number of tourists visiting Buddhist sites?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): The State/UT-wise details of Foreign Tourists Visits (FTVs) during calendar year 2017 to 2020 are at Annexure-I. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India does not maintain Financial year wise data on Foreign Tourists Visits (FTVs).

(b): The details of Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEEs) through tourism in India during calendar year 2017 to 2020 are at Annexure-II.

(c): Under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, an amount of Rs. 98.73 Crore was sanctioned for the construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya in Bihar. An amount of Rs. 93.22 Crore was released of which Rs. 90.51 Crore was utilized. Moreover, the project is physically completed.

(d): Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned projects for the development of tourism infrastructure at Buddhist sites under the 'Swadesh Darshan', 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' and 'Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development' Schemes in the country.

'Buddhist Circuit' has been identified as one of the thematic circuits for development under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme. Details of projects sanctioned under the Buddhist thematic circuit are:

- Development of Sanchi-Satna-Rewa-Mandsaur-Dhar in Madhya Pradesh for an amount of Rs.74.02 Crore during the year 2016-17.
- Development of Sravasti, Kushinagar & Kapilvastu in Uttar Pradesh for an amount of Rs.99.97 Crore during the year 2016-17.
- Construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya in Bihar for an amount of Rs.98.73 Crore during the year 2016-17.
- Development of Junagadh- Gir Somnath- Bharuch-Kutch- Bhavnagar- Rajkot-Mehsana in Gujarat for an amount of Rs.26.68 Crore during the year 2017-18.
- Development of Shalihundam-Thotlakonda- Bavikonda- Bojjanakonda- Amravati- Anupu in Andhra Pradesh for an amount of Rs.24.14 Crore during the year 2017-18.

The details of the Buddhist works approved under PRASHAD Scheme are given below:

- i. Integrated Development of Varanasi – I inter-alia including following two components worth Rs. 9.5 Crore for development of Buddhism structures:
  - Sound and Light Show, Dhamek Stupa at a cost of Rs. 734 lakh.
  - Buddha Theme Park, Sarnath at an approved cost of Rs. 220 lakh.
- ii. Development of Amaravati Town, Guntur District as a Tourist Destination inter-alia including following components worth Rs. 1.33 crore only relating to Buddhism:
  - Mahachaitya Stupa & ASI Museum at an approved cost of Rs. 62.25 Lakh.
  - Dhyana Buddha Site Development at an approved cost of Rs. 70.44 lakh.
- iii. Development of Pilgrimage Facilitation at Four Patron Saints at Yuksom, Sikkim – Rs. 33.32 Cr. in the year 2020-21.

Under the Scheme of ‘Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development’, a project for the ‘Illumination of monuments in Varanasi/Sarnath (Dhamekh Stupa in Sarnath, Chaukhandi Stupa in Sarnath, Tomb of Lankan in Sarnath and Man Mahal in Banaras)’ was sanctioned in 2014-15 for an amount of Rs.5.12 Crore.

In addition to the development of tourism related infrastructure under the various schemes of the Ministry of Tourism, The efforts made for promotion and marketing of Buddhist sites in overseas markets including countries with overwhelmingly Buddhist population are as follows:

- Ministry of Tourism has produced films for promotion of Buddhist Destinations in India.
- Buddhist site creatives are being used as part of Incredible India 2.0 campaign.
- Ministry of Tourism has released TV, print and digital media campaigns in Buddhist source markets.
- Ministry of Tourism organizes International Buddhist Conclave (IBC) with participation of tour operators, media, opinion makers and Buddhist monks from different source markets.
- India Tourism offices in the overseas markets regularly participate in a number of travel & tourism fairs / exhibitions / expos wherein India’s Buddhist sites are promoted among large number of visitors to the event.
- Road shows were organized in ASEAN countries wherein India’s Buddhist Heritage was highlighted.
- Ministry of Tourism promotes Buddhist sites on the Incredible India website of the Ministry of Tourism.
- Ministry of Tourism has developed [www.indiathelandofbuddha.in](http://www.indiathelandofbuddha.in) website to showcase the rich Buddhist Heritage in India

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## ANNEXURE-I

## STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2547# ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022 REGARDING FLOW OF FOREIGN TOURISTS

## State/UT wise Foreign Tourist Visits (FTVs) during calendar year 2017 to 2020

S. No.	State/ UT	2017	2018	2019	2020
		FTV	FTV	FTV	FTV
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	15313	15242	16206	5412
2	Andhra Pradesh	271362	281083	280356	67591
3	Arunachal Pradesh	7147	7653	7825	961
4	Assam	21760	15592	26878	7285
5	Bihar	1082705	1087971	1093141	308080
6	Chandigarh	31832	39681	44132	12218
7	Chhattisgarh	6701	14399	6817	2322
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1908	1608	1666	222
9	Daman & Diu	5535	5694	5703	1382
10	Delhi #	2740502	2740502	2983436	681230
11	Goa	842220	933841	937113	302751
12	Gujarat	448853	513113	595607	210047
13	Haryana	193381	73977	48046	17474
14	Himachal Pradesh	470992	356568	382876	42665
15	Jammu & Kashmir	79765	139520	57920	5317
16	Jharkhand	170987	175801	176043	490
17	Karnataka	498148	543716	608754	165325
18	Kerala	1091870	1096407	1189771	340755
19	Lakshadweep	1027	1313	820	413
20	Madhya Pradesh	359119	375476	327958	99819
21	Maharashtra #	5078514	5078514	5528704	1262409
22	Manipur	3497	6391	13608	3139
23	Meghalaya	12051	18114	25813	2311
24	Mizoram	1155	967	2249	265
25	Nagaland	4166	5010	5577	518
26	Odisha	100014	110818	115128	10206
27	Puducherry	131407	141133	149919	92080
28	Punjab	1108635	1200969	1101343	359114
29	Rajasthan	1609963	1754348	1605560	446457
30	Sikkim	49111	71172	133388	19935
31	Tamil Nadu	4860455	6074345	6866327	1228323
32	Tripura	69899	102861	154405	31877
33	Telengana	251846	318154	323326	46694
34	Uttar Pradesh	3556204	3780752	4745181	890932
35	Uttarakhand	133725	151320	152273	41339
36	West Bengal	1574915	1617105	1656145	463285
37	Ladakh	-	-	38652	1126
	Total	26886684	28851130	31408666	7171769

Source: State/Union Territory Tourism Departments,

#: 2017 data is repeated for 2018 data; 2019 data is estimated by applying all India growth rate for 2019/18 on 2018 data; 2020 data is estimated by applying all India growth rate for 2020/19 on 2019 data

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**ANNEXURE-II**

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2547# ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022 REGARDING FLOW OF FOREIGN TOURISTS**

**Foreign Exchange Earnings through tourism in India during 2017-2020**

<b>Year</b>	<b>FEE from Tourism (in Rs. Crore)</b>
2017# <sup>2</sup>	177874
2018# <sup>2</sup>	194881
2019# <sup>2</sup>	211661
2020# <sup>2</sup>	50136

#2 Revised estimates

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