

Sectoral

Tourism & Hospitality

1. What effort is the Ministry of Tourism making to increase investment into the sector?

The Ministry of Tourism is set to host the First Global Tourism Investors Summit in 2023 in collaboration with Central Ministries and State/UT Governments. This mega event aims to highlight investment and trade opportunities while providing a platform for international investors to discover India's diverse tourism products and services.

2. What are the initiatives taken by the Indian government in the medical tourism sector?

The following initiatives have been undertaken by GOI: A new category of visa "Medical Visa" has been introduced by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, which can be given for specific purpose to foreign tourists coming to India for medical treatment. The Ministry of Tourism has included the promotion of Medical Tourism as new initiatives. The Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) scheme, administered by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, provides financial support to approved tourism service providers. To boost medical tourism, the government has announced setting up of the National Medical and Wellness Tourism Board to provide help to those visiting the country for health care need. The Board, besides Ministry officials, will include other stakeholders such as hospitals, hoteliers, medical experts and tour operators. The National Health Authority (NHA) is planning to set-up an information portal for connecting foreign patients with service providers.

3. What are the initiatives taken by the Union Government to develop rural tourism in India?

Recognising the potential of rural tourism in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has identified Rural Circuit as one of the fifteen thematic circuits for development under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme and is aimed at leveraging tourism as a force multiple for revitalizing the rural economy and for giving both domestic and international tourists a glimpse of rural aspect of the country. Further, Ministry of Tourism has formulated a Draft 'National Strategy and Roadmap for Development of

Rural Tourism in India - An initiative towards Atmanirbhar Bharat', which, inter alia, focuses on generating income and jobs in rural areas and empower local communities, youth and women, fulfilling the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

4. What are the government's initiatives under Lighthouses Tourism in India?

The GOI has identified 78 lighthouses in the country as centres of tourism, which are in the first phase under Public Private Partnership (PPP). The identified lighthouses are in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The GOI has kick started the ' lighthouse tourism ' project by inviting initial qualification bids to develop eight lighthouses in the first phase, at a cost of INR 128 crore, under the public-private-partnership model for 7 lighthouses.

5. What are the key features of the revamped Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme?

The goal of the revamped Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme is to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations in the country. The scheme is aimed at 360-degree holistic development with a focus on increasing self-employment, youth skilling, private sector investments, and preserving local cultures. The strategic objectives of the Scheme are: (i) To enhance the contribution of tourism to the local economies (ii) To create jobs including self-employment for local communities (iii) To enhance the skills of local youth in tourism and hospitality (iv) To increase private sector investment in tourism and hospitality (v) To preserve and enhance the local cultural and natural resources

6. What is Prasad Scheme?

Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) scheme focuses on developing and identifying pilgrimage sites across India for enriching the religious tourism experience. It aims to integrate pilgrimage destinations in a prioritised, planned and sustainable manner to provide a complete religious tourism experience. As on date, total number of destinations/sites identified for development under the scheme at present are 68 in 30 states/UTs.

7. What is Swadesh Darshan Scheme?

Under the Swadesh Darshan scheme, the Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to State Governments, Union Territory Administrations for the infrastructure development of identified theme-based tourist circuits. The scheme aims to promote, develop and harness the

potential of tourism in India. As of date, 15 thematic circuits have been identified for development across 31 states/UTs for which INR 4,130 cr. has been utilised.

8. What are the FDI policies for tourism & hospitality sector?

100% FDI is allowed under the automatic route in tourism and hospitality 100% FDI allowed in tourism construction projects, including the development of hotels, resorts and recreational facilities. For more information, [click here](#).

9. What are the different rates of an average hotel tariff or convenience lodging in India?

A wide variety of hostels, home stays, villas and/or hotels are available across India. These lodging options have varied price points depending on the location, services offered, seasonality, etc.

10. What GST rates will be applicable for travel by air?

The GST rates applicable on air tariffs are as below: 1. Travel by economy class - 5 % 2. Travel by other than economy class - 12 %

11. What is the minimum eligibility for sponsorship of events having potential for promotion of tourism to and/or within India?

The Ministry of Tourism invites proposals to support culture, music, dance, literary, sports, cinema and other events which have potential or create potential for attracting large number of tourists, both domestic and international. The support to these events would be decided on a case-to-case basis based on the potential for promotion of tourism as well as the benefits that would accrue from it for the promotion of Incredible India brand.