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CONTRIBUTION OF TOURISM IN GDP OF INDIA

Abstract: this article describes the overall contribution of tourism sector towards the GDP of India. Tourism is the second largest foreign exchange earner in India. The sector is predicted to grow at an annual rate of 6.9% to 32.05 lakh crore (US\$450 billion) by 2028 (9.9% of GDP). In October 2015, India's medical tourism sector was estimated to be worth US\$3 billion, and it is projected to grow to US\$7–8 billion by 2020.

Key words: tourism, GDP, foreign tourist arrivals.

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ВКЛАД ТУРИЗМА В ВВП ИНДИИ

Аннотация: в статье описывается общий вклад сектора туризма в ВВП Индии. Туризм является вторым по величине источником валютных поступлений в Индии. Прогнозируется, что к 2028 году рост сектора составит 6,9% (450 млрд долларов США) в год (9,9% ВВП). В октябре 2015 года сектор медицинского туризма Индии оценивался в 3 миллиарда долларов США, а к 2020 году, согласно прогнозам, он увеличится до 7–8 миллиардов долларов США.

Ключевые слова: туризм, ВВП, прибытие иностранных туристов.

Over 10 million foreign tourists arrived in India in 2017 compared to 8.89 million in 2016, representing a growth of 15.6% [1,2,3]. Domestic tourist visits to all states and union territories numbered 1,036.35 million in 2012, an increase of 16.5% from 2011. In 2014, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh were the most popular states for tourists. Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Agra and Jaipur were the five most visited cities of India by foreign tourists during the year 2015. Worldwide, Delhi is ranked 28th by the number of foreign tourist arrivals, while Mumbai is ranked 30th, Chennai 43rd, Agra 45th, Jaipur 52nd

Table 1- Foreign exchange earnings from tourism in India (2003 –2018)

Year	Earnings (US\$ in millions)	% change	Earnings (₹ crores)	% change
2003	4,463	43.8	20,729	37.6
2004	6,170	38.2	27,944	34.8
2005	7,493	21.4	33,123	18.5
2006	8,634	15.2	39,025	17.8
2007	10,729	24.3	44,360	13.7
2008	11,832	10.3	51,294	15.6
2009	11,136	-5.9	53,700	4.7
2010	14,193	27.5	64,889	20.8
2011	16,564	16.7	77,591	19.6
2012	17,737	7.1	94,487	21.8
2013	18,445	4.0	107,671	14
2014	20,236	9.7	123,320	14.5
2015	21,071	4.1	135,193	8.8
2016	22,923	9.1	154,146	14.3
2017	27,310	19.1	177,874	15.4
2018	28,585	4.7	194,882	9.6

Competitiveness Report 2019 ranked India 34th out of 140 countries overall. India improved its ranking by 6 places over the 2017 report which was the greatest improvement among the top 25% of countries ranked. The report ranks the price competitiveness of India's tourism sector 13th out of 140 countries. It mentions that India has quite good air transport infrastructure (ranked 33rd), particularly given the country's stage of development, and reasonable ground and port infrastructure (ranked 28th). The country also scores high on natural resources (ranked 14th), and cultural resources and business travel (ranked 8th)[4]. However, some other aspects of its tourism infrastructure remain somewhat underdeveloped. The nation has many hotel rooms per capita by international comparison and low ATM penetration. The World Tourism Organization reported that India's receipts from tourism during 2012 ranked 16th in the world, and 7th among Asian and Pacific countries [5].

Table 2 - Foreign tourist arrivals in India (2007–2018)

Year	Arrivals (in millions)	% change
2007	5.08	14.3
2008	5.28	4.0
2009	5.17	–2.2
2010	5.78	11.8
2011	6.31	9.2
2012	6.58	4.3
2013	6.97	5.9
2014	7.68	10.2
2015	8.03	4.5
2016	8.80	9.7
2017	10.04	14.0
2018	10.56	5.2

The Ministry of Tourism designs national policies for the development and promotion of tourism. In the process, the Ministry consults and collaborates with other stakeholders in the sector including various central ministries/agencies, state governments, union territories and private sector representatives.[6] Concerted efforts are being made to promote niche tourism products such as rural, cruise, medical and eco-tourism. The Ministry of Tourism maintains the Incredible India campaign focused on promoting the tourism in India.

As a measure to boost tourism, the Indian Government implemented a new visa policy in November 2014, allowing tourists and business visitors to obtain a "visa on arrival" at 28 international airports, by acquiring an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) online before arrival, without having to visit an Indian consulate or visa centre. In April 2015, the "visa on arrival" scheme was renamed "e-Tourist Visa" (or "e-TV") to avoid confusion [7]. The e-Tourist Visa facility requires a tourist to apply online on a secure Government of India website, at least four to thirty days before the date of travel.[8] If approved, the visitor must print and carry the approved visa with their travel documents. The visa allows holders of an ETA to enter and stay anywhere in India for a period of ninety days except for citizens of US, UK, Japan and Canada. Citizens of these countries can stay for up to 180 days at a time. An ETA can be obtained twice in a single calendar year. India first introduced its "visa on arrival" facility on 27 November 2014, to citizens of the following countries: Australia, Brazil, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Djibouti, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Laos, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Myanmar, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Norway, Oman, Palau, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russia, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Korea, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, UAE, Ukraine, USA, Vanuatu and Vietnam. On 30 July 2015, the facility was extended to China, Macau and Hong Kong. On 15 August 2015, the facility was further extended to citizens of Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Aruba, Belgium, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba,

East Timor, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Jamaica, Malta, Malaysia, Mongolia, Monaco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Seychelles, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Sweden, Taiwan, Tanzania, Turks and Caicos Islands, the United Kingdom, Uruguay and Venezuela [9]. The facility should eventually be expanded to about 180 countries. As a result of the new visa policy, 56,477 tourists arrived on an e-Tourist Visa during October 2015, compared with 2,705 tourist arrivals during October 2014 (just before the facility was introduced), representing a 1987.9% increase. During the period from January to October 2015, a total of 258,182 tourists arrived on an e-Tourist Visa, a 1073.8% increase on the 21,995 tourist arrivals during the same period in 2014 (before the e-Tourist Visa was available).

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