

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4808
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2001
LAUNCH OF NEW ELECTRONIC GUIDANCE SYSTEM
A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government have launched a new Electronic Guidance System to guide the tourists in Red Fort;
- (b) If so, the details thereof along with the expenditure incurred thereon;
- (c) whether the Government propose to launch such facilities in other historical monuments;
- (d) if so, the names of such monuments along with the expenditure proposed to be incurred thereon, monument-wise;
- (e) the charges fixed for use of this system by tourists;
- (f) whether the Government are also planning to release CD- roms on important monuments; and
- (g) if so, the names of monuments selected therefor along with the expenditure involved therein?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The System called Handy Audio Reach Kit (HARK) is based on advanced technology and provides automated Bi-lingual description of various parts of the monument to the tourist on headphone as he goes near it.

This facility has been provided at the following locations in the Red Fort :- Naubat-Khana, Diwan-i-Aam, Hyatt-BakshGarden, Shah Burj, Hammam, Diwan-i-Khaas, Rang Mahal, Khas Mahal and Mumtaz Mahal.

The total installation cost for the system was Rs2,22,500/-

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) The Electronic Guidance System is proposed to be introduced in a phased manner at different monuments in the country. The next two monuments where the system are to be installed shortly are:-

(1) Qutab Minar, New Delhi

(2) Humayun`s Tomb, New Delhi

The proposed cost for installing the electronic guidance system at Qutub Minar is Rs.3,91,050/- and at Humayun`s Tomb, Rs.2,48,850/-

(e) The hiring charge is fixed at Rs.20/- per equipment with Rs.150/- as refundable security deposit on return of equipment.

(f)&(g) Yes, Sir. The Department of Tourism has released Virtual CD ROMs on Khajuraho, Taj Mahal, Hampi and Konark. Virtual Walkthrough CD ROMs are proposed to be released on Hampi and Ajanta.

The Virtual CD ROMs on Khajuraho and Taj Mahal were produced at a total cost of Rs. 6,38,560/- . The CD ROMs on Hampi and Konark were produced at a total cost of Rs.6,55,000/-. As regards the production of Virtual Walk Through CD ROMs on Hampi and Ajanta, the proposal is under process.