

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:560
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
ASSISTANCE FOR TOURISM PROJECTS
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;SHYAMA SINGH

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

- (a) whether certain irregularities have come to the notice of the Government in the release and utilisation of assistance for tourism projects;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) whether the funds released in favour of State Tourism Department have never been verified and grossly misutilised;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken to cross check the utilisation of funds released to State Governments for tourism projects?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) and (b) The Department of Tourism, Govt. of India extends Financial Assistance to the State Govts./UT Administrations every year for identified tourism projects as per the guidelines. Funds are sanctioned based on interse priority of the proposal and availability of funds. Utilisation of funds for the projects is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations. However, delay in implementation, if any, regarding utilisation of funds is taken up with the State Govts./UT Administrations for remedial measures.

(c) : No, Sir.

(d) : Does not arise.

(e) : The progress of old projects is monitored at the time of prioritisation of projects each year. Besides the Regional Directors and the Directors of the Govt. of India Tourist Offices also review the progress. Senior officers of the Deptt. Of Tourism also review projects under construction during their visits to various states to monitor their implementation. In various other fora also the State Govts. are advised to complete the projects expeditiously and utilise the funds properly. Exclusive meetings to review the projects are also taken with the State Government officers.