

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:922
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002
WILDLIFE AND FOREST TOURISM
ANANTA NAYAK

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

- (a) whether there is a vast scope to promote wildlife and forest tourism in Orissa;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to tap the tourist potential;
- (c) whether any plan has been prepared by the State Government and submitted to the Union Government for financial assistance to develop tourist infrastructure in the State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

- (a): Like in most of the States, there is scope for promotion of wildlife and forest tourism in Orissa also.
- (b), (c) and (d): Development of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UTs. The Department of Tourism has, however, been providing financial assistance for tourism projects prioritised in consultation with State Governments. During the Ninth Plan 62 projects with Central financial component of Rs.12.36 crores were sanctioned for development of tourism in Orissa. Now under the new Schemes only integrated development of tourism circuits and destinations are to be taken up in Tenth Plan in consultation with the State Governments.