

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4161
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2002
DEVELOPMENT OF KANHA RESERVE
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

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

- (a) whether the Kanha reserve offers tremendous tourist potential for attracting tourist from all over the world;
- (b) if so, the number of domestic and foreign tourists who visited Kanha during each of the last five years and the earnings made thereby both in Indian and foreign currency during the said period; and
- (c) the specific steps taken to maintain a balance between tourism and preserving the ecology of this forest reserve?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Department of Tourism, Government of India does not maintain tourist arrival figures as also foreign exchange earnings destination-wise. However, as per the information made available by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the total number of domestic and foreign tourists who visited Kanha during the last five years is as follows:

No. of tourist visits

Year	Domestic	Foreign
1997-98	41026	2244
1998-99	40383	2454
1999-2000	41816	2483
2000-01	43960	2688
2001-02	51655	1761

(c): Government of India has formulated the policy and guidelines on Eco-Tourism in India in 1998 in consultation with the Tourism Industry and NGOs etc. The policy aims to preserve, retain and enrich our natural resources and to ensure regulated growth of Eco-Tourism with its positive impacts of environmental protection and community development.