

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2125  
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2002  
FESTIVAL FOR PROMOTION OF ETHNIC CULTURE IN THE NORTH-EAST  
MONI KUMAR SUBBA

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

- (a) whether a Tea Tourism Festival is organised in February every year in Jorhat for promotion of ethnic culture in the North-East;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total Central aid provided for organising the festival during each of the last three years?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a): The State Government of Assam organised Tea Tourism Festival for the first time in Jorhat from 4th to 9th February, 2002. There is no permanent venue for the Tea Tourism Festival although it is confined to the tea growing belt of Upper Assam.

(b): Multi-farious fairs and festivals occur throughout the year and are an amalgam of India`s rich cultural heritage. To promote specific fairs including the fairs celebrated in North Eastern Region, financial assistance is extended in the form of publicity support, particularly for releasing advertisements, printing publicity material relating to the fairs/festivals and also for creating semi/permanent assets.

(c): Funds sanctioned for the Festival during the last three years to the State Government of Assam are as under:

Year	Amount sanctioned(Rupees in lakhs)
1998-99	5.00
1999-2000	2.50
2000-2001	Nil

For the year 2001-2002, Tea Festival has been prioritised for financial assistance of Rs.5.00 lakhs.