

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6933  
ANSWERED ON:13.05.2002  
DEVELOPMNT RAKUMAI TEMPLE AS PILGRIM SITE  
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to develop Pandharpur as a pilgrim site in Maharashtra;
- (b) whether the Government are aware that a large number of pilgrims come to Vithal Rakumai temple situated on Chandrabhaga river in Pandharpur but there are no basic civic amenities; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to develop it as a pilgrim site?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE(SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a), (b) and (c): Development and promotion of tourist centres/pilgrim centres is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administration themselves. However, Department of Tourism, Govt. of India provides funds for tourism-related projects identified in consultation with them every year. The project for development of Pandharpur as a pilgrim site in Maharashtra has not been prioritised for central financial assistance during 2001-2002.