

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2936
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2003
ECO-TOURISM IN KERALA
SURESH KODIKUNNIL

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

- (a) whether the Government has given any financial assistance to promote Eco-tourism in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the places identified in the States to promote Eco-tourism;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to promote Eco-tourism at Thenmmala; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): The Department of Tourism, Government of India formulated a National Eco-Tourism Policy and circulated to all States and Tourism Trade. Greater emphasis has been laid down on promotion of Eco-Tourism in National Tourism Policy 2002. The Government has also set up a National Committee on Eco-Tourism and Mountains to work out details for managing the fragile eco-system and to consider projects/programmes for development of eco-tourism in the country.

A project proposal was sanctioned for procurement of trekking and rock climbing equipment at Thenmmala, Kerala during 1998-99 for central financial assistance of Rs.7.15 lakhs.