

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1928
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2003
DEVELOPMENT OF AYODHYA AS TOURIST DESTINATION
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to develop Ayodhya as a tourist destination to show-case the cultural heritage of Ayodhya on the lines of Kurukshetra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith estimated cost likely to be incurred thereon;
- (c) whether any other tourist destinations are also proposed to be developed on similar lines in other states; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) and (b): Based on field visits the following works have been identified in consultation with State officers:-

1. Development /Repairs of Ram Ki Paidi.
2. Development of River Front/Green Belt as far as seven kilometers.
3. Development of smaller Parikarma route
4. Development of Kunds
5. Development of Gardens
6. Installation of Sound and Light Show conceived around Ramayana story
- 7 Construction of a neat and attractive tourist resort.

Out of the above, for Ram ki Paidi a sum of Rs.98.18 lakhs has been sanctioned and released to CPWD. .

(c) & (d) Development of tourist/pilgrim places is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Department of Tourism, Government of India, provides financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations every year for the tourism projects identified in consultation and interaction with them.

Details of projects sanctioned in the current year by Department of Tourism are given at Annexure-I.