

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3507

ANSWERED ON:18.04.2005

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM

Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Sahu Shri Chandra Sekhar

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the existing mechanism established for co-ordination amongst various Ministries and State Governments for formulating strategies for unimpeded growth of tourism;
- (b) if so, the details and the shortcomings noticed in the mechanism;
- (c) whether the Government has initiated a major exercise to improve tourism infra-structure in co-ordination with the concerned Ministries;
- (d) if so, whether the result oriented approach was being adopted to improve road connectivity to all major tourist destinations and heritage sites;
- (e) if so, whether there was also a move to improve on shore infrastructure for berthing of cruise ships;
- (f) if so, whether the Government has taken up the issues with the concerned authorities including the need of increasing scheduled airline capacity, upgradation of airports, rationalization of taxes and the setting up of budget hotels in 100 identified tourist sites with private sector participation; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

- (a), and (b): Tourism as a subject requires close coordination and interaction between Ministries/ Departments/State Governments and Private Sector. Government have established several forums/mechanisms for Inter Institutional Coordination, like Group of Ministers on Tourism Industry and Trade; Standing Committee of Secretaries chaired by Cabinet Secretary; Tourism Advisory Council, chaired by Minister of State for Tourism(IC); State Tourism Ministers Conference; regular coordination with Ministries etc. These arrangements have helped in achieving high rate of growth in tourism.
- (c): Yes, Sir.
- (d); Yes, Sir.
- (e): Yes, Sir.
- (f): Yes, Sir.
- (g): A coordinated approach has led to formulation of strategies relating to increasing airline capacity , upgradation of airports, rationalization of taxes and visa- on -arrival etc.