

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:677

ANSWERED ON:23.02.2006

FUNDS FOR UPGRADING TOURISM RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE

Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

(a) whether the Ministry of Tourism has urged the Planning Commission to request each Union Ministry to set aside certain portion of plan expenditure for upgrading tourism related infrastructure in the country;

(b) if so, the response of the Planning Commission thereto;

(c) whether the Ministry of Tourism has also approached the Ministry of Finance for waiver of import duty on equipment related to adventure tourism; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Ministry of Finance in the matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI)

(a): Ministry of Tourism has taken up with Department of Road Transport and Highways and with Planning Commission the issue of giving priority to projects providing road connectivity to major tourist destinations.

(b): Planning Commission has responded favorably to the request.

(c) & (d): Ministry of Tourism has also taken up with Ministry of Finance, the issue of reliefs to be provided to adventure tour operators.