

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3113

ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TOURIST SPOTS IN ORISSA

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

- (a) whether there has been any increase in the arrival of foreign/domestic tourists in Orissa during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the financial assistance provided by the Union Government for development of tourist spots in Orissa during each of the last three years; and
- (d) the funds earmarked for 2006-07 for development of tourism in Orissa?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) and (b): Yes, Sir. The details of domestic and foreign tourist visits to the State of Orissa during 2003, 2004 and 2005, as reported by the State Government of Orissa, are as follows:-

Year	Tourist Visits to Orissa	
	Domestic	Foreign

2003	3701245 (+12.5%)	25020 (+ 7.5%)
2004	4125536 (+11.5%)	28817 (+15.2%)
2005	4632976 (+12.3%)	33310 (+15.6%)

Note: Figures in bracket indicate % increase over previous year.

(c): During the last three financial years, Ministry of Tourism provided the following financial assistance to the State of Orissa under its various schemes:-

Year	Amount sanctioned
	(Rupees in lakhs)

2003-04	419.55
2004-05	1339.18
2005-06	2309.61

(d): Funds are allocated to the State Governments every year based on project proposals received from the State Governments, which are appraised for financial assistance keeping in view inter-se priority and availability of funds, and no State-wise earmarking of funds is done. For the year 2006-07, a total of 10 projects under the schemes of destination & circuit development, events & fairs and rural tourism have been prioritized for the State of Orissa for Central financial assistance.