

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3731
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2005
ECO TOURISM IN REMOTE AREAS
Maken Shri Ajay

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any strategic plan to promote eco-tourism in the remote areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any plan to control the fake massage/parlour centers, who are mis-using the credibility of Ayurveda;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the response from State Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SMT. RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a) & (b): National Tourism Policy lays emphasis on promotion of eco-tourism. Ministry of Tourism has been providing Central Financial Assistance for development of tourism infrastructure including eco-tourism projects in States and Union Territories based on project proposals prioritized in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Some of the State Governments like Sikkim, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra have implemented unique Eco-tourism projects in their states with Central Financial Assistance from Ministry of Tourism.

(c), (d) & (e): Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health has formulated guidelines to prescribe minimum requirements for Ayurveda/Panchkarma centers. The objective of these guidelines is to regulate Panchkarma centers and to ensure that minimum standards of infrastructure and services are available in these centres.