

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:274
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2007
WILDLIFE AND FOREST TOURISM
Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a vast scope to promote wildlife and forest tourism in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to tap the tourist potential;
- (c) whether the Union Government have received any proposal for financial assistance to develop tourist infrastructure in these States during the last year and the current year, so far; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Integrated development of places of tourist interest/spots in the country including wildlife and forest tourism is a continuous process. The development and promotion of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations themselves. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides funds on the basis of project proposals prioritized for grant of central financial assistance every year to them for the following schemes:

- (i) Tourist Circuits
- (ii) Product Infrastructure & Destination Development
- (iii) Large Revenue Generating projects

On submission of project proposals, they are appraised as per scheme guidelines and funds released, subject to availability under the respective head.

The position of funds released during 2005-06 and 2006-07(till December, 2006) to the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra is as under:

Sr.No.	Name of the State	Amount sanctioned during 2005-06 (Rs. in lakh)	Amount sanctioned during 2006-07 (Rs. in lakh)
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| 1. | Madhya Pradesh | 3037.39 | 3599.78 |
| 2. | Maharashtra | 2075.04 | 2769.05 |