

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4893
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2007
PROMOTION OF DOMESTIC TOURISM
Nayak Shri Ananta

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has any proposal to develop domestic tourism and to declare some destinations as "Areas of Excellence";
- (b) if so, the locations identified and the estimated cost of the projects;
- (c) the time by which these places would be developed;
- (d) whether any directions have been issued to the State Governments to form tourist police to protect the visiting tourists;
- (e) if so, the action taken by the State Governments thereon; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a): Ministry of Tourism has been promoting and developing domestic tourism in the country. However, there is no proposal under consideration at present to declare destinations as "Areas of Excellence".
- (b) & (c): Do not arise.
- (d), (e) & (f): The Ministry of Tourism has advised all the State Governments and Union Territories to deploy Tourist Police to ensure safety & security of tourists, at tourist centres. Some of the States have deployed Tourist Police in one form or another.