

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4338  
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2008  
DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN KARNATAKA  
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

**Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether to encourage investment in the tourism sector, the Karnataka Government in its draft tourism policy has proposed a speedy conversion of land acquired for tourism projects to non-agricultural land including waiving off conversion fees;
- (b) if so, whether the Tourism Department has planned a number of other initiatives to promote investment in the tourism sector;
- (c) whether the Tourism Department has decided to obtain clearances in six months time;
- (d) if so, what are the main features of the scheme;
- (e) whether the Centre has agreed to provide help and assistance in implementing these schemes; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has prepared a draft Tourism Policy for the period 2007-2012 for the purpose of overall development of tourism in the State.

(e) and (f): Development and promotion of places of tourist interest is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations including the State of Karnataka. However, Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance every year for the Product/Infrastructure development of tourist destinations/circuits, Large Revenue Generating projects, Fairs/festivals/events and IT projects to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

Project proposals which are complete as per guidelines, are appraised on the basis of inter-se-priority and funds released, subject to availability under the respective head during the concerned year. During the 10th Plan, projects worth Rs.9002.72 lakh have been sanctioned to the State of Karnataka. For the year 2007-08, Rs.2004.71 lakh have been sanctioned for development of tourism in Karnataka.