

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6964
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2010
DEVELOPMENT OF TOURIST PLACE AGRA
Ramshankar Dr.

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any plan to develop tourist place-Agra in Uttar Pradesh and to provide facilities to tourists therein in view of Commonwealth Games, 2010;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any special package has been provided in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of funds sanctioned, released and utilized during each of the last three years and the current year in this regard alongwith the details of Heads under which the allotted funds are to be charged; and
- (f) the expected number of tourists, players, VIPs, etc. likely to visit Taj Mahal during the aforesaid event?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED)

(a): Development, promotion, implementation and monitoring of tourism projects is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UTs. However, Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for tourism projects which are complete as per scheme guidelines and identified in consultation with the State Government, subject to availability of funds and inter-se-priority under various schemes.

(b) to (f): Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned a mega tourism project (circuit) in Agra under the scheme for Product/Infrastructure Development for Destination and Circuits. As a part of this mega project, in the year 2009-10 an amount of Rs.19.76 crore was sanctioned for the components including Development of Shahjahan Park, Interpretation Centre, Public Conveniences, Taj Nature Walk etc. In addition to this, a Sound and Light Show was also sanctioned at Agra Fort for an amount of Rs.1.70 crore as well as a Rural Tourism Project in village Barara for Rs.0.41 crore in the same year.