

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2131
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2010
PROMOTION OF RURAL TOURISM
Bais Shri Ramesh

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), in its study, has found a vast potential of tourism in rural India;
- (b) if so, the response of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to give tax relaxations to private investors in the rural tourism with a view to promoting it;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a): Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has come out with a report on Eco Rural Tourism in April, 2010.
- (b): The Ministry of Tourism already has in place the scheme for Rural Tourism since 2003-04 and till date 166 Rural Tourism Sites have been identified across the country based on their core-competency in terms of heritage and culture and potential to attract tourists with an aim to bring in inclusive growth.
- (c): There is no such proposal under consideration by the Ministry of Tourism.
- (d) & (e): Do not arise.