

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:279

ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011

ECO-TOURISM

Bhujbal Shri Sameer ;Dhruvanarayana Shri R.

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched a number of schemes to promote eco-tourism in various States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise and State-wise;
- (c) the number of proposals received, sanctioned and rejected for providing financial assistance for the development of eco-tourism during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and project-wise including Jharkhand;
- (d) the details of the funds sanctioned and utilised by the State Governments, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure proper and effective growth of eco-tourism in the country including Public- Private Partnership model, if any?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM(SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHA)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.279 ANSWERED ON 19.08.2011 REGARDING ECO- TOURISM.

(a) to (d): Development and promotion of tourism including eco tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the project proposals submitted by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are finalised based on discussions in the prioritization meetings held in the Ministry of Tourism. The Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance for all approved projects, subject to availability of funds, inter-se priority, adherence to scheme guidelines and submission of utilization certificates for funds released earlier under various schemes.

The details of funds sanctioned and released/utilised by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations primarily for eco-tourism projects during each of the last three years and current year is annexed.

(e): Government inter alia coordinates with non profit organisations like the Eco Tourism Society of India (ESOI), comprising of stakeholders including those from tourism trade, for promotion and development of eco-tourism in the country.

In order to encourage hotels to incorporate various eco-friendly measures, guidelines have been formulated for approval of hotel projects at the implementation stage and for their classification under various star categories. These guidelines include inter-alia measures relating to pollution control, energy and water conservation, sewage treatment plant, rain water harvesting system and waste management system.