

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:807  
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2011  
RURAL TOURISM  
Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Ramshankar Dr.

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

- (a) the details of the schemes to promote rural tourism in the country;
- (b) the funds sanctioned, released and utilised by the State Governments under these schemes during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the steps being taken/proposed by the Government for development and beautification of tourist destinations in rural areas?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): Ministry of Tourism is implementing Rural Tourism Scheme with the main objective of showcasing rural life, art, culture and heritage in villages which have core competence in art & craft, handloom, textiles, natural environment etc. An amount of upto Rs.50.00 Lakhs for infrastructure development and upto Rs.20.00 Lakhs for capacity building is given for development of rural sites identified by the State Governments/UT Administrations in consultation with the State Govt., subject to adherence to scheme guidelines, availability of funds and inter-se-priority. Central Financial Assistance are given, inter- alia, for the development of activities like landscaping and improvement of pathways/pavements, illumination, solid waste and sewerage management.

The details of the funds sanctioned, released and utilized by the State Governments/UT Administrations under the Rural Tourism scheme are given at Annexure.