

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3712
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2011
DEVELOPMENT OF MEGA DESTINATION AND TOURIST CIRCUIT
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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of scheme for Development of Mega Destinations/Circuits in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the criteria laid down for selection of a tourist spot under the said Scheme;
- (c) the names of the tourist destinations of the country included or proposed to be included in the said scheme alongwith funds allocated therefor, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to include more such tourist sites under the said scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and project-wise?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Tourism, at present, has identified 45 Mega Tourist Destinations/Circuits in consultation with the concerned State Governments/Union Territories(U.T.) Administrations on the basis of footfalls and their future tourism potential. Out of the 45 identified projects, 30 have already been sanctioned. The details of mega tourist destinations/circuits are at Annexure.

For each identified mega destination and circuit, the Ministry of Tourism contribution as central financial assistance is capped at Rs.25.00 crore and Rs.50.00 crore respectively under the scheme of "Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits".

Identification and sanctioning of mega tourism projects are continuous process. Proposals submitted by States/ U.Ts for mega tourist destinations/circuits, are sanctioned based on prioritization meetings held with the State Governments /U.T. Administrations, subject to availability of funds, inter-se priority and adherence to scheme guidelines.