

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1657
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012
FOREST TOURISM
Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to exploit wildlife and forest tourism potential in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to promote wildlife and forest tourism; and
- (d) the funds earmarked/released to the State Governments during the current five year plan period for the purpose?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Development, promotion and implementation of various tourism infrastructure projects including Eco-tourism projects are primarily the responsibility of the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration. The Ministry of Tourism, however, provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for Tourism projects identified in consultation with them subject to availability of funds, inter-se-priority and adherence to the scheme guidelines.

(c): The Ministry of Tourism, inter alia, undertakes international and domestic publicity in a holistic manner to promote various tourist destinations and products. It also supports seminars and events to promote eco-tourism.

(d): The details of projects sanctioned to various State Governments/Union Territory Administrations which primarily focus on development of Eco- tourism during the current five year plan period upto 30th September, 2011 are given in annexure. The Ministry of Tourism earmarks no separate funds for eco-tourism projects.