

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2952
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2012
RURAL TOURISM
Mahato Shri Narahari;Roy Shri Nripendra Nath

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a perceptible drop in the inflow of foreign tourists visiting rural tourism sites in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to offer some bonanza for foreign tourists for visiting rural areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): The Ministry of Tourism does not compile data on number of foreign tourists visiting rural tourism sites separately. However, the total number of foreign tourist visits to different States and UTs during 2008, 2009 and 2010 were estimated as 14.38 million, 14.37 million and 17.85 million respectively.
- (c) to (e): Development and promotion of tourism in the country, including in rural areas, is primarily undertaken by State Governments. However, to attract more tourists to rural tourism sites identified in consultation with State Govts./UT Administrations, Ministry of Tourism provides central financial assistance to State Govts./UT Administrations for capacity building of local persons and development of tourism infrastructure at such sites.