GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6352 ANSWERED ON:06.05.2013 GUIDELINES ON ECO TURISM ACTIVITIES Pakkirappa Shri S.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether to address conflicting issues of wildlife versus tourism, the Government has issued certain guidelines to develop and monitor the fragile eco-system and cope with tourist pressure with emphasis on generation of local livelihood;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to involve locals in eco-tourism strategies while developing such projects;
- (d) is so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government also proposes to levy certain local conservation cess on private tour operators in these areas to garner resources; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

- (a) & (b) A set of comprehensive guidelines has been issued under section 38O-1(c) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for tiger conservation and Tourism in Tiger Reserves, which allows regulated tourism in core areas of Tiger Reserves. The guidelines are available in public domain at www.projecttiger.nic.in.
- (c), (d), (e) & (f) The guidelines, interalia, cover ecotourism with a view to benefit local people and wildlife.