

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5989  
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2013  
PROMOTION OF GREEN TOURISM  
Tanwar Shri Ashok

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

- (a) whether the Government promotes `Green Tourism` across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has signed any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and technological agreements with other countries to develop mechanisms to promote `Green Tourism` in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the total budgetary allocation made for the purpose during the last three years, State/UT-wise; and
- (f) the other steps being taken by the Government to promote green tourism in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI)

(a), (b) & (e): Eco-Tourism also known as "Green Tourism" is one of the emerging segments of tourism industry in India. The development and promotion of various tourism destinations and products including Eco Tourism is primarily the responsibility of respective State Government/Union Territory Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance to various State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for the tourism projects including eco tourism projects prioritized in consultation with them subject to availability of funds, inter-se priority and adherence of scheme guidelines.

The Ministry of Tourism does not earmark separate budget for eco- tourism projects. The details of Central Financial Assistance given by the Ministry of Tourism during the last three years to various State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for projects which primarily focus on development of eco-tourism are given in Annexure.

(c) & (d): The Ministry of Tourism has not signed any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or made technological arrangements with other countries to develop mechanisms to promote "Green Tourism" in India.

(f): The Ministry of Tourism promotes various tourism destinations and products including Eco Tourism in a holistic manner, inter alia, through its domestic and international campaigns. The Ministry also supports seminars and events that focus on development and promotion of eco- tourism from time to time as per the scheme guidelines. The Ministry of Tourism has developed the Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India (STCI) for the accommodation and the Tour Operators sectors. The STCI, inter alia, stresses upon maximizing benefits to environment and minimizing negative impact; reducing pollution; conservation of bio-diversity, eco- systems and landscapes.