

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4324
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2015
DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN SON BEEL
Biswas Shri Radheshyam

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to develop the second largest natural wetland of Asia, namely `Son Beel (Shon Bill)` in Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) the funds allocated by the Government during the last three years for the purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (c): Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Governments. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to various State Governments for various tourism projects prioritized every year in consultation with them subject to availability of funds, inter-se priority and adherence to the scheme guidelines.

The project Development of Barak Valley and Two Hills Districts of Assam was sanctioned to the State Government of Assam in the year 2007-08 with total Central Financial Assistance of Rs.605.42 lakh. The project had Infrastructure Development and provision of tourist facilities, public conveniences, pathways, landscaping etc. at Son Beel, Karimganj as one of its component for CFA of Rs.84.13 lakh. The project is complete and commissioned.

The details of fund released by the Ministry of Tourism for the said project during the last three years is as under:

Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Year	Amount Released
1.	2012-13	0
2.	2013-14	0
3.	2014-15	16.83#

Rs.121.08 lakh was final release for the project and Rs.16.83 lakh for the component.