

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3754
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2014
RURAL TOURISM PROJECTS
Ahlawat Smt. Santosh

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of rural tourism projects being implemented in the country along with the status of such projects, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether any new projects has been sanctioned in the current year and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Rajasthan;
- (c) whether any hurdles/obstacles are being faced in the execution of such projects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Tourism has a Rural Tourism Scheme with the main objective of showcasing rural life, art, culture and heritage in villages, that have core competence in art & craft, handloom, textiles, natural environment etc. Under this scheme, Central Financial Assistance (CFA) upto Rs.50.00 Lakh for infrastructure development and upto Rs.20.00 Lakh for capacity building is provided to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for each identified site by them. The details of amount sanctioned, amount released, amount utilised and number of Rural Tourism sites sanctioned in the country including Rajasthan during the last three years and the current year are given in Annexure.

However, development, implementation, identification and promotion of tourism projects including those related to rural areas is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration including Rajasthan. The Ministry of Tourism (MOT) sanctions and releases Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to various State Governments/Union Territory Administrations after receipt of the proposals from them subject to availability of funds, inter-se priority and adherence to the scheme guidelines. The Ministry of Tourism generally has not faced any hurdles/obstacles in sanction of the scheme.