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Title: Need to take steps to develop tourist spots at Balagarh, Chandannaga and Chinsurah and Bansberia regions of Hooghly district, West Bengal.

DR. RATNA DE (HOOGHLY): Tourism plays a major role in the development of the country and creates employment opportunities. The concerned Ministry should make efforts to ensure that this particular aspect is tapped to its fullest potential. In the 12th Five year plan, it is envisaged that tourism sector would create 24.9 million jobs to increase the sector's current growth from 9% to 12%. This is a noble idea. As the House is aware, across the world, tourism industry generates huge employment opportunities. Keeping in view huge potential in tourism sector, renewed and sincere efforts should be taken to ensure that various important tourist spots are developed in the country. In order to attract large number of tourists both within the country and from abroad. Another important aspect which I want to highlight is that tourism benefits internationally accrue to women as 70% of workforce belong to women in the international level and tourism industry. So, Indian women should be drawn into tourism sector. Under the circumstance, I would like to request the Ministry of Tourism to make efforts to develop tourism sector with a view to provide more employment and to create opportunities for women in tourism sector. In this context, I would also like to request Hon'ble Minister to make efforts for the development of tourist spots at Balagarh, Chandannaga, Chinsurah and Bansberia of Hooghly district, West Bengal.