

nes and the agreed fares are filed with the respective Governments for approval.

Development of Tourist Infrastructure in Delhi

122. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to develop tourist infrastructure in Delhi;

(b) whether a tourism reception centre is proposed to be set up for the purpose;

(c) whether Similar reception centres would be set up in every State Capital; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Tourist Reception Centre will be called Bharat Paryatan Bhawan.

(c) and (d) The State/UT Governments are assisted/advised to set up tourist reception centres in the respective States/ Union Territories.

Assistance for Development of Special Tourism Areas

123. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sanctioned any Central Assistance for the development of Special Tourism Areas in different States;

(b) if so, the details of the fund sanctioned to different States during last three years;

(c) whether any amount of fund was sanctioned in these years for the purpose of Orissa; and

(d) what are the Special Tourism Areas identified and developed in Orissa with the fund sanctioned for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism has not sanctioned any amount to any State during the last three years for the development of Special Tourism Areas.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Development of Kokilavan near Haryana-Rajasthan Border

124. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Kokilavan situated on Kosikala-Nando road near Haryana-Rajasthan border is a place of worship visited by both Indian and foreign pilgrims;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no infrastructure like electricity, road etc. at present resulting in great hardship to visitors;

(c) whether Government propose to develop this area as a tourist spot and provide necessary infrastructure; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Development of tourism infrastructure is undertaken by the State Governments. Department of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territories based on the specific project proposals received from them based on their merits, inter-se priority and availability of funds. No proposal has been received from the State Government for the development of Kokilavan.

Development of Tourism in Gujarat

125. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Action Plan for the development of Tourism in Gujarat has

been prepared by the State Government and submitted to the Central Government for the release of requisite funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) which are the specific projects identified by the State for which Government propose to release financial assistance during 1998-99 with details of each project?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat has prepared and action plan for the development of tourism in the State. The projects in the Action Plan will involve resources of Central and State Governments, the Financial Institutions and the private sector. Financial assistance is provided by the Department of Tourism for specific projects received from the State Governments as per the schemes and guidelines of the Department. During 1997-98, the Department of Tourism sanctioned Rs. 111.84 lakhs for the implementation of 7 projects in the State of Gujarat.

(c) Financial assistance is provided each year on the basis of projects prioritised in consultation with the State Government and specific proposals received, and the projects of implementation of earlier sanctioned projects. Projects for 1998-99 have not been identified.

Development of Pilgrim Spots

126. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration to develop pilgrim spots as major tourist attraction;

(b) if so, the names of such spots to be developed in south especially in Karnataka; and

(c) the details of the development to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): (a) to (c) The Department has a scheme under which funds are provided through the State Govts. for development of Pilgrim places as identified by the respective trusts/agencies.

Identification of pilgrim centres for development is a continuous process and the Department has identified Gulbarga and Sringeri as pilgrim places in Karnataka for development. On the State Government's detailed project proposals, central financial assistance is sanctioned for the development of the pilgrim centre.

Development of Tourism in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan

127. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to State:

(a) What are the details of the projects and assistance sanctioned, extended to Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan for development of Tourism during the preceding five years;

(b) what have been the achievement levels in each case; and

(c) what are the details of such projects etc., contemplated for the purpose in Ninth plan-period?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism, Government of India sanctioned an amount of Rs. 161.05 lakhs for the implementation of 15 projects in Madhya Pradesh, during the last four years. Out of these projects two have been completed. In the case of Rajasthan Rs. 1302.14 lakhs has been sanctioned for the implementation of 71 projects during the preceding five years. Out of these projects 18 have been completed. The amount sanctioned to Madhya Pradesh during the last five years is comparatively