

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