

(b) Credit facility was extended to the private airlines, based on commercial agreements entered into with them by the OMCs.

(c) The credit facilities are given to other consumers on case to case basis subject to commercial negotiations by the OMCs. As a general practice, the OMCs do not give credit facility to the Retail Outlet dealers. However, if considered necessary, in exceptional situations, credit facility is extended by the OMCs to the retail Retail Outlet dealers for a period of 3 to 5 days against collateral security.

(d) An inter-ministerial meeting was held in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas on 22.10.2008, in which the officials of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Finance, OMCs and representatives of the domestic airlines etc. were present. The adverse financial position of the civil aviation sector was discussed and it was decided that in order to enable the domestic airlines to clear their dues as on 21st October, 2008 the airlines *inter alia*, would be allowed to clear their outstanding dues in six equated monthly instalments, latest by 31-3-2009.

Tourism projects in Maharashtra

1677. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has sent any proposal for certain tourism projects to the Central Government for approval and sanction; and

(b) if so, the total number of projects which have been cleared and the number of projects which have not been cleared yet?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) The development and promotion of places of tourist interest is undertaken primarily by the State Governments themselves. However, Ministry of Tourism provides funds on the basis of project proposals received from the State Governments under various schemes.

During 2008-09, the following proposals have been received from the Government of Maharashtra:

- (1) Pune Festival 2008
- (2) Mega Shopping Festival at Aurangabad
- (3) Destination development of Toranmal, District Nandurbar
- (4) Major Circuit Development for the Vidarbha Region
- (5) Major Circuit Development for the Marathwada Region
- (6) Major Circuit Development for Heritage Corridor for Aurangabad
- (7) Major Circuit Development for Elephanta

The project proposals, which are complete as per guidelines are processed on *inter-se-priority* basis and funds released, subject to availability under the respective head.

During the 10th Five Year Plan period, projects worth Rs.8267.75 lakh have been sanctioned to the State of Maharashtra. Similarly during 2007-08 an amount of Rs. 1279.24 lakh has been sanctioned for development of tourism in Maharashtra.