

Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Lakshadweep, Puducherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands so that issues and the bottlenecks coming in the way of the effective growth of tourism sector in the region could be deliberated upon. This was in sequel to two such Inter-state Regional Conferences organized at New Delhi (for North Central States/Union Territory Administrations) and at Gangtok, Sikkim (for East and North East States) on August 18, 2009 and December 6, 2009 respectively.

In these Regional Conferences, deliberations focused on holistic development of destinations, utilization of Central Financial Assistance to States/Union Territory Administrations, solid waste management at destinations, safety and security of tourists, cleanliness/hygiene to be maintained in the tourism sites, developing wayside amenities on main roads, broad-basing of hospitality education, Capacity Building of Service Providers and other issues related to tourist facilitation.

The development and promotion of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations themselves. However, Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance for tourism projects, identified in consultation and interaction with them, subject to availability of funds and inter-se-priority under various schemes of the Ministry.

In addition, Ministry of Tourism is also undertaking marketing and publicity campaigns in the overseas markets under the brand title "incredible India" for promoting India's tourism destinations and products.

Scholarship for students of backward classes

†*52. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount due to be paid as scholarship reimbursement to the students of backward classes studying in class one to ten and for scholarship and fee reimbursement for those studying beyond class ten in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the reasons therefore, and

(c) by when this would be paid?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): The details of funds allocation and release made during 2009-10 to Uttar Pradesh as against the demand of the State Government and keeping in view it's committed liability are as under:-

(Rupees in crores)

Name of the Scheme	Budget Allocation for the Scheme	National Allocation for the State	Demand of the State	Admissible demand (*)	Funds released (till date)
Pre-matric Scholarship	30.00	4.35	242.21	219.73	8.56
Post-matric Scholarship	135.00	20.41	295.88	285.87	29.69
Total	165.00	24.76	538.09	505.60	38.25

(*) Total Demand of the State minus the committed liability

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

2. The demand of the State Government is far in excess of the total budget allocation under the two schemes for the entire country. Funds are therefore, allocated to State/UTs in proportion to their population. Accordingly, while inviting proposals from States and UTs, they are specifically requested to send proposal within the notional allocation.

Funds, over and above the notional allocation, are released subject to the availability of funds/savings towards the end of the financial year.

Landline network of BSNL in border areas

†*53. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) Government is aware that landline network of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in border areas of Jaisalmer, Barmer and Jalor districts largely remains disturbed and telephones installed at police stations remain dead for months together;

(b) whether it interrupts putting a check on the activities of intruders, smugglers etc., in border area;

(c) whether smuggling, terrorism and anti-national activities are carried out in these areas through the communication network established across the border;

(d) whether any mechanism is proposed for jamming the communication network across the border; and

(e) the action under consideration for strengthening and streamlining our communication network?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Sir, overall the land line network of BSNL in border areas of the country including Jaisalmer, Barmer and Jalor districts is satisfactory and also no such complaint is reported that telephones installed at police stations remain dead for months together.

(c) BSNL is extending all types of support to the district administration and other government agencies entrusted with the task of checking the activities of smuggling, terrorism and anti-national activities in border area.

Further, in order to ensure genuine use of communication facilities, Department of Telecommunications has laid down strict subscriber verification policy for service providers. The Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells established across the country have been assigned auditing of the subscriber verifications process being carried out by the service providers.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Various steps have been taken/being taken for strengthening and streamlining the communication network. Some of important steps are following:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.