

### **Rural tourism in the country**

2585. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any scheme to promote rural tourism in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of rural tourism in the country;
- (c) the details of rural tourism projects sanctioned in the country, State-wise; and
- (d) the special package provided to State Governments to promote rural tourism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED): (a) to (d) Development, promotion and monitoring of tourism projects, including rural tourism projects, is primarily undertaken by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, under its Rural Tourism Scheme, Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for infrastructure development up to Rs. 50.00 lakh and for capacity building including skill upgradation upto Rs. 20.00 lakh in rural sites identified in consultation with them as per extant guidelines and subject to availability of funds. Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned projects for development of 167 rural tourism sites up to 30.9.2010. The State-wise details of these projects are given in the Statement.

#### ***Statement***

##### ***State-wise details of Rural Tourism Projects sanctioned upto 30.9.2010***

State/UT	No. of Rural Tourism sites	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	9	509.67
Arunachal Pradesh	4	246.78
Assam	4	230.08
Bihar	1	70.00
Chhattisgarh	7	438.80
Delhi	2	46.08
Gujarat	5	367.81
Haryana	1	70.00

1	2	3
Himachal Pradesh	3	170.00
Jammu and Kashmir	23	1447.78
Jharkhand	2	134.77
Karnataka	5	300.00
Kerala	6	394.80
Madhya Pradesh	7	451.65
Maharashtra	2	140.00
Manipur	4	162.39
Meghalaya	3	143.29
Nagaland	12	803.15
Orissa	8	489.25
Punjab	5	261.55
Rajasthan	3	208.78
Sikkim	11	715.77
Tamil Nadu	9	601.68
Tripura	10	625.95
Uttarakhand	11	688.31
Uttar Pradesh	4	205.67
West Bengal	5	327.3
Puducherry	1	65.17
TOTAL	167	10316.48

#### **Wildlife and forest tourism in country**

2586. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of wildlife and forest tourism potential in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to promote wildlife and forest tourism; and