

1	2	3	4	5
34.	Uttarakhand	95976	99910	106470
35.	West Bengal	1154770	1133671	1180418
TOTAL :		13267273	14112590	13717522

*Estimated using all-India growth rate.

**Estimated using tourist visits figures of sample hotels furnished by Delhi Government.

India as seventh best tourist destination

3366. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the Conde Nast Readers' Travel, India has been voted as the 7th best tourist destination of the world from its previous best of 13th;

(b) the manner in which the Ministry capitalizes such recognitions and boost tourism in the country;

(c) in view of stunning success of the luxurious Maharaja Express, whether the Ministry, in co-ordination with Railways, is planning to introduce more such trains for attracting foreign tourists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED): (a) and (b) As per the Conde Nast Readers' Travel Awards 2010, India has been voted as the 7th best destination in the world as compared to its position as the 10th best destination in the Conde Nast Readers' Travel Awards 2009. The Ministry capitalizes on such recognitions for the purpose of boosting inbound tourism to the country by highlighting them at various international events, fora, press briefings, stakeholder meetings, etc.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Tourism under its Scheme of Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects, provides Central Financial Assistance for tourism infrastructure projects including tourist trains, based on proposals received subject to the scheme guidelines, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

Government owned hotels

3367. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government owned hotels in the country, State and city-wise;