

### **Tourism parks in country**

590. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to set up 20 tourism parks in the country on the pattern of Sentosa Theme Park on an island in Singapore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has started the process of identifying new tourist destinations across the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether these tourist parks are likely to be developed through public-private participation and also aims to hold tourists for a longer period in our country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SULTAN AHMED): (a) to (f) Development and promotion of tourism including the identification of new tourism destinations and setting up of Mega Tourism Parks for holding the tourists for a longer period as well as adopting public - private partnership model for their development are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territories (U.T) Administrations.

Assistance from Ministry of Tourism to State Governments/U.T. Administrations in these activities may include services of consultants and financial assistance under its Plan Schemes as per the scheme guidelines, inter-se priority and subject to availability of funds. The projects to be funded by the Ministry of Tourism (MOT) are decided in consultation with the States/UTs.

MOT has appointed a National Level Consultant (NLC) to develop action plans for setting up of Tourism Parks and integrated development of tourist destinations/circuits in consultation with States/UTs.

### **Lavana Caste as Scheduled Tribe**

†591. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.