

- iii. 10% of the annual plan allocation of the Ministry of Tourism mandatorily earmarked for releasing Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to the North Eastern States.
 - iv. 100% CFA for organizing fairs and festivals allowed only to the North Eastern States and the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
- (c) The following steps have been taken by the Government to promote tourism in the North East Region including Assam:
- i. Releasing television campaigns on various TV Channels.
 - ii. A separate section on the North East Region included on the promotional website of the Ministry of Tourism www.incredibleindia.org.
 - iii. The North East Region has been the theme of the India Pavilion at the South Asian Travel and Tourism Exchange (SATTE) organized annually in New Delhi for the past few years.
 - iv. Publicity material produced and distributed widely through India tourism offices in India and overseas.

Inflow of foreign tourists into rural tourism

3072. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a perceptible drop in the inflow of foreign tourists into rural tourism;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to offer some bonanza for foreign tourists who will avail facilities in rural areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI): (a) and (b) The number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India during 2011 was 6.31 million with a growth of 9.2% over 2010. The number of FTAs during January-November 2012 was 5.90 million (Provisional) with a growth of 5.9% over the same period of 2011. Ministry of Tourism does not compile separate data of foreign tourists visiting rural tourism sites.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Tourism is implementing Rural Tourism Scheme with the main objective of showcasing rural life, art, culture and heritage in villages. Under the Rural Tourism Scheme, Central Financial Assistance (CFA) is given for infrastructure development activities including improvement of roads, landscaping of parks, solid waste and sewerage management facilities and accommodation for tourists in the village. CFA is also given for capacity building of youth, women, artisans and for creating awareness about tourism activities.

Implementation of Forest Rights Act

3073. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared a report on the implementation of the Forest Rights Act; and

(b) if so, whether it is correct that out of 2.8 million title cases processed so far, majority of them have been rejected and only in 0.5 per cent cases community rights over forest resource has been recognised, thereby denying the forest dwelling tribal communities their traditional rights over the minor forest produce causing resentment among them thereby giving impetus to the left wing extremism with central Indian uplands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is obtaining information from the State/UT Governments regarding the status of implementation of the Forest Rights Act, 2006, every month, and compiling a monthly progress report on the status of implementation of the Act in the country. The monthly progress report is also uploaded on the Ministry's website (www.tribal.nic.in).

(b) As per the information received from the State/UT Governments, a total number of 32,37,579 claims (31,73,520 individual and 64,059 community) had been filed under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 till 30th November, 2012, out of which 27,91,168 claims (86.21% of the total claims filed) had been disposed off. Out of the total 27,91,168 claims disposed off, 12,79,009 claims were approved and same number of titles were distributed, and the remaining 15,12,159 claims were rejected. As per the available data, against the total number of 64,059 claims filed for community rights, 8,498 titles for community rights (13.26%) were distributed. Many of the States are not providing separate data for individual and community claims and therefore, the available data may not reflect the complete position.