

**Upgradation of Surajkund Craft Fair to International Fair**

†124. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to upgrade the Surajkund Craft Fair to Surajkund International Craft Fair from the year 2013;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken by Government to organise such kind of fairs regularly in other regions of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Haryana informs that it is decided to upgrade Surajkund Fair to Surajkund International Crafts Fair from the year 2013. In addition to the Partner country, there will be greater participation from large number of countries from the year 2013 onward. Role of the participating countries will include creating country specific ambience at the designated areas in the Fair ground, bringing craftsmen and cultural troupes for showcasing art and craft of the country etc.

(c) Development, promotion and implementation of tourism projects including fairs and festivals is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for tourism projects which are prioritized in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The projects which are complete as per scheme guidelines are sanctioned subject to availability of funds and *inter-se* priority.

**Project proposals from Kerala and Lakshadweep**

125. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the project proposals received from Kerala and Lakshadweep Governments for promotion and development of tourism, proposals sanctioned alongwith the funds allocated/released thereunder during each of the last two years and the current year;

(b) the status of completion of projects and utilization of funds thereunder during the said period;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the details of project proposals from Kerala and Lakshadweep lying pending with the Union Government for clearance, the reasons for their pendency along with the progress made for their clearance; and

(d) the criteria/norms adopted for sanction of projects and allocation of funds thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Tourism runs centralized campaigns in electronic, print and online media in both international and domestic markets to promote various Indian tourism destinations and products in a holistic manner. Besides, the Ministry participates in various International Tourism Fairs, Exhibitions, Events for the purpose. The Ministry through its Overseas Offices, *inter-alia*, organizes Road Shows, Know India Seminars, Workshops to create awareness about Indian destinations and products. The Ministry also invites international tour operators, media persons and opinion makers under its hospitality scheme to give them first hand experience of Indian tourist destinations and products.

The development, promotion and timely completion of tourism projects are primarily the responsibilities of the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for tourism projects identified in consultation with them, subject to availability of funds, *inter-se* priority under various Schemes.

The Ministry of Tourism does not earmark funds for different States/UTs. The details of funds sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism to the State Government of Kerala for various tourism projects during the last three years and utilization thereof are as under:—

Sl. No.	Year	No. of projects sanctioned	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in crore)	Amount released (Rs. in crore)	Utilization of funds (Rs. in crore)
1.	2010-11	3	42.87	22.24	2.94
2.	2011-12	7	23.76	17.63	0.00
3.	2012-13 (upto September, 2012)	2	1.71	1.42	0.00

The Ministry of Tourism prioritizes tourism projects for grant of CFA every year

in consultation with the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration. The prioritized projects complete in all respect, as per the Scheme Guidelines are processed for sanction of funds.

No proposal has been received in the Ministry from the UT Administration of Lakshadweep for grant of CFA during the last two years and the current financial year.

### **Simplifying regulations for tour operations**

126. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government's or any State Government's accreditation is mandatory to conduct tour operations in India;

(b) if so, whether Government is planning to simplify its regulations regarding the total paid up capital and turnover, in order to encourage small players in this field; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI): (a) The Central Government accreditation is not mandatory to conduct tour operations in India.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Impact study of Incredible India campaign**

127. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any impact study of the Incredible India campaign;

(b) if so, the details of the targets set by Government and progress made against targets, during each of the last three years; and

(c) the State-wise list of tourist arrivals in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI): (a) The Incredible India Campaign of Ministry of Tourism has been