

Environmental pollution in Karnataka

3387. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Talakadu, Mudukutore are important religious and historical destinations in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that there is a lot of environmental pollution at the said places as they are on the banks of river Cauvery;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has taken any steps to ensure acceptable cleanliness;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI): (a) to (f) Talakadu and Mudukutore are important historical religious places known for famous temples such as Kirthinarayana, Vaidyeshwara, Pathaleshwara, Mallikarjuna Temples etc.

Development, promotion, maintenance and up keep of various tourism destinations and products, is primarily the responsibility 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 and adherence to the scheme guidelines.

The Ministry of Tourism has not provided any Central Financial Assistance for development of Talakadu and Mudukutore areas.

Proposal to include some castes in the list of Scheduled Tribes

†3388. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received proposals from Rajasthan and other States and Union Territories to include some castes in the list of Scheduled Tribes;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.