

the Ministry through its overseas offices, *inter-alia*, organises Road Shows, Know India Seminars, Workshops; participates in various Fairs, Exhibitions and Events to promote various Indian tourist destinations and products. The campaigns include holistic promotion of various Indian tourism products and destinations of the country.

(b) and (c) Extension of Tourist Visa on Arrival (TVoA) to eleven countries has helped India in incremental growth of foreign tourist traffic. The selection of these countries is based on various parameters, including security concerns. During the period January-December 2012 a total number of 16,084 tourists arrived under TVOA Scheme as compared to 12,761 during the corresponding period in 2011. During January-February 2013, the Tourist Visa on Arrival has registered a positive growth of 38.9%, as compared to the corresponding period in 2012.

#### **Tourism projects for Rajasthan**

2762. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of tourism projects sanctioned by Government to Rajasthan, during last five years;
- (b) the amount sanctioned, project-wise;
- (c) whether any other projects requested by the State Government pending with the Ministry; and
- (d) the number of tourists, who visited Rajasthan in the last five years, domestic and foreign tourists thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI): (a) and (b) The number of tourism infrastructure projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India to the State of Rajasthan during last five years along with project-wise amount sanctioned is given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations themselves. However, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India provides Central Financial Assistance for tourism projects which are prioritized in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations.

The project proposals which are complete as per scheme guidelines are sanctioned and funds released subject to *inter-se* priority, availability of funds and submission of utilization certificates.

(d) Domestic and Foreign Tourist visits in the State of Rajasthan during last five years are as under:

Year	Domestic Tourist	Foreign Tourist
2007	25920529	1401042
2008	28358918	1477646
2009	25558691	1073414
2010	25543877	1278523
2011 (Provisional)	27137323	1351974

***Statement***

*Tourism Infrastructure projects sanctioned to Rajasthan during last five years  
(2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12)*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned
<b>2007-08</b>		
1.	Development of Floodlighting of monuments as a tourist circuit	800.00
2.	Development of Shekhawati as a tourist destination	754.46
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1554.46</b>
<b>2008-09</b>		
1.	Conservation, Restoration and Development of Nahargarh Fort, Jaipur	432.06
2.	Conservation and Restoration of Muchkund Dholpur	441.21
3.	Conservation and Restoration of Hawa Mahal PH-II	360.66

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned
4.	Conservation and Restoration of Jantar Mantar PH-II	193.90
5.	Conservation and Restoration of Bala Qila and Kanakwari Fort, Alwar	480.61
6.	Development of Ajmer-Pushkar as a Mega Detination	1069.68
7.	Construction, Restoration of Parkota and various Building Shergarh Baran	461.44
8.	Integrated Development of Udaipur	241.37
9.	Royal Rajasthan Palace on Wheels Train under LRG scheme	750.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4430.93</b>

**2009-10**

1.	Infrastructure Development for Destination Salgaon Mount Abu	231.05
2.	CFA for Dev. of Keoldeo National Park, Bharatpur	266.19
3.	Dev of Taragarh Fort	499.39
4.	Dev of Ghat ki Guni, Jaipur	479.36
5.	Conservation and Dev. of Amer Palace, Jaipur	485.39
6.	Elephant Festival Jaipur	5.00
7.	Desert Festival, Jaisalmer	8.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1974.38</b>

**2010-11**

1.	Infrastructure Dev. of Eco-tourism destination	594.55
2.	Development of Dang Tourist Circuits as Tourist Destination	795.31
3.	Construction of Wayside Amenities of RTDC	605.64
4.	CFA for beautification of Jaipur, in Rajasthan	275.00
5.	CFA for the project Hathi Gaon, Phase-II Amber, Jaipur	321.69

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned
6.	Construction and Restoration of Shiv Temple Bandevra, Ramgarh, Baran	489.73
7.	CFA for celebration of Deepotsav during Commonwealth Games, 2010 in Jaipur	50.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3131.92</b>

**2011-12**

1.	CFA for Conservation and Restoration of Fresco Paintings and Murals of Nahargarh Fort, Jaipur	500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>500.00</b>

**Promoting Buddhist circuits in the country**

2763. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is tremendous potential of promoting Buddhist circuits in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that several foreign VVIPs including the Prime Minister of Thailand visited various places of Buddhist interest recently; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to develop Bodh Gaya, Somnath and Kushinagar, etc. to that of international standard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Tourism has appointed a National Level Consultant (NLC) to identify spiritual tourism circuits, including Buddhist Circuits in consultation with various State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

NLC has identified following main Buddhist circuits for promotion and