

(c) if so, the measures being taken by Government to attract tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India during January to October, 2014 along with the growth registered over the same month of preceding year is given below:

Month	FTAs (in lakhs)	Growth over same month of preceding year (in %)
January	7.20	0.1
February	7.38	7.2
March	6.69	4.6
April	5.04	11.9
May	4.21	0.8
June	4.92	9.0
July	5.72	12.9
August	5.69	16.9
September	4.95	9.2
October	6.56	9.6
TOTAL	58.35	7.8

In 2014, almost all the months have registered a positive growth in FTAs over same month of preceding year.

(c) The details of measures/steps taken to attract tourists in the country are given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to USQ No. 451 Part (c)]

Development of tourism in Gujarat

455. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put in place a roadmap for the development of tourism in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Now Government proposes to implement the roadmap in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) The development and promotion of various tourism destinations and products is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration. The Ministry of Tourism, however, provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for tourism projects prioritised in consultation with them for each financial year, subject to availability of funds, *inter-se* priority and adherence to scheme guidelines.

The focus of Ministry of Tourism is on the improvement of existing products and developing new tourism products to be world standards in the entire country including for Gujarat. The Ministry of Tourism has taken initiative of identifying, diversifying, developing and promoting the nascent/upcoming 'niche' products of the tourism industry so as to overcome 'seasonality' and promote India as a 365 days destination, to attract tourists with specific interests and ensure repeat visits for the unique products in which India has comparative advantage.

During the Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plans a total number of 10 projects were sanctioned for the State of Gujarat at a total sanctioned amount of ₹8987.54 lakh and release of ₹5548.16 lakh. No subsequent project could be sanctioned for the State of Gujarat due to pendency of utilization certificates for the projects sanctioned up to the year 2012-13.

Illiteracy amongst tribals of Gujarat

456. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that illiteracy is rampant among the tribals of Gujarat and other parts of country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what action Government has taken or proposes to take to spread literacy among the tribals of Gujarat and rest of the country in a big way?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. While the tribals have a lower literacy rate compared to the overall National Literacy rate, the gap between the two has been reducing over the years. The national literacy rate of the tribals, as per the 2011 Census, is 58.96% and the literacy rate of tribals of Gujarat is 62.5%.