

given in the Statement.[Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to USQ No. 289, Part (a) to (d)]

Boosting of tourism in Nepal

291. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is taking any measures to help Nepal boost tourism after the earthquake and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Ministry plans to introduce more means of transport for tourists to travel to Nepal and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tourism has already signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Nepal for cooperation in the field of Tourism. The MoU envisages cooperation in the fields of:-

- (i) Exchange of information and data related to tourism.
- (ii) Cooperation between tourism stakeholders including hotels and tour operators.
- (iii) Exchange programmes for cooperation in Human Resource Development.
- (iv) Investment in the Tourism and Hospitality sector.
- (v) Exchange of visits of Tour Operators/Media/Opinion Makers for promotion of two way tourism.
- (vi) Exchange of experience in the areas of promotion, marketing, destination development and management.
- (vii) Participation in travel fairs/exhibitions in each other's country.
- (viii) Promotion of safe, honourable and sustainable tourism.

Development of Dhansiri as a tourist spot

292. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how far it is a fact that there is a demand to develop Dhansiri Sub-division in North-East as a tourist spot;