

- * Khajuraho Group of Monuments (1986)
- * Group of Monuments at Hampi (1986)
- * Fatehpur Sikri (1986)
- * Group of Monuments at Pattadakal (1987)
- * Elephanta Caves (1987)
- * Great Living Chola Temples (1987, 2004)
- * Sundarbans National Park (1987)
- * Nanda Devi National Park (1988)
- * Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi (1989)
- * Humayun's Tomb Delhi (1993)
- * Qutb Minar and its Monuments, Delhi (1993)
- * Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR) (1999)
- * Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodh Gaya (2002)
- * Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka (2003)
- * Champaner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park (2004)
- * Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus) (2004)

Development of Tourism in Assam

2035. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have done any study as to why the tourism industry in Assam is in a bad shape despite having high potential in that sector;

(b) what steps Government have taken to bring about sustainable development in tourism sector in Assam; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to boost the rural tourism in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) A 20 year Perspective Plan for sustainable development of tourism in the state has been prepared during 2002-2003.

(c) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UTs. Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance for the tourism projects identified in consultation with the state concerned after ensuring their viability. Ministry of Tourism has been supporting State Government of Assam for development of tourism infrastructure, development of Tourism Circuits and Rural Tourism projects. During first two years of Tenth five plan, total amount of Rs. 1081.59 lakh was sanctioned for tourism projects including rural tourism project to the State of Assam.

During the current year 2004-05, Rs. 487.75 lakh has been sanctioned for Development of NE Circuit in Guwahati and Rural Tourism at Sualkuchi in the Kamrup District.

Identification of tourist spots in Maharashtra and Punjab

2036. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of tremendous tourism potential available in States like Maharashtra and Punjab;

(b) if so, what are the tourist spots, so far, identified, State-wise; and

(c) what infrastructure and financial facilities Government propose to provide so as to popularise such tourist spots, both at national and international level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Ministry of Tourism is aware of the potential and scope of tourism in the country. Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Govts./UT Administrations. Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance to the State Govts./UT Administrations for infrastructure projects and development of tourist sites in the country. The number of projects sanctioned and funds released State-wise during the last three years are