

(c) to (e) In May 2013, the then Chief Minister of Goa had requested for granting special status to Goa, on the lines of special status granted to the States of Mizoram, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand under Article 371 or any other provision of the Constitution of India, for regulating ownership and transfer of land in order to conserve the limited resources available for development and to ensure that the State preserve its unique identity. The matter was examined and was not considered feasible.

(f) and (g) No other State has requested for special provisions under Article 371 of the Constitution of India.

Tourism potential of Lakshadweep

730. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Lakshadweep has great tourism potential and it is not being tapped fully;

(b) whether it is also a fact that infrastructure facilities for proper development of tourism in Lakshadweep is insufficient;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken to solve these problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) The promotion of tourism in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep is being done in a controlled manner without affecting the fragile coral ecosystem. An Expert Committee appointed under the guidance of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has prepared integrated Island management plan for Lakshadweep for its holistic development including development of tourism in a sustainable way.

(b) to (d) At present, tourism infrastructure facilities are available at Kavaratti, Kadmat, Kalpeni and Minicoy island of Lakshadweep. A tourism policy which provide for establishment of tourism infrastructure in all the tourism focal islands of Lakshadweep has already been initiated by the Union Territory of Lakshadweep Administration.

Relief and rehabilitation fund for victims of J&K floods

731. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided relief and rehabilitation fund to victims of Jammu and Kashmir floods;

(b) whether Government has assessed the damage and loss of life and property, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the rehabilitation and reconstruction work has been completed, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government of India is extending all necessary support to the State Government in providing relief and rehabilitation to the victims of J&K floods. As per the State Government of J&K, in the floods, 2,73,731 houses/huts/cow sheds were damaged and 300 persons lost their lives.

An amount of ₹ 3,545 crore including ₹ 1,102 crore for immediate relief measures, ₹ 500 crore for reimbursement as per actuals, based on the bills raised by IAF/Ministry of Defence, ₹ 1000 crore additional assistance over and above regular SPA 2014-15, ₹ 837 crore under Prime Minister's Relief Fund, ₹ 47 crore for repair of NH-IA, subsidy of ₹ 59 crore to lift rice and wheat at APL rate for distribution to the affected areas was sanctioned.

Under Prime Minister's Development Package, 2015, an additional amount of ₹1194.37 crore has been released as assistance towards completely / severely / partially damaged pucca and kuccha houses. Provision has also been made for ₹ 2000 crore towards permanent restoration of damaged infrastructure, ₹ 800 crore towards Interest subvention on assistance for restoration of livelihood for traders / self employed / business establishments , ₹ 500 crore for restoration of damaged horticulture areas and development of horticulture, ₹ 1458 for flood management of river Jhelum and its tributaries and ₹ 1350 crore towards 90% grant portion of World Bank assistance for Jhelum-Tawi flood reconstruction project.

Security cover for important religious and cultural places

732. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated a plan to provide special security cover to some of the important religious and cultural places of the country;

(b) if so, the places identified under the said plan; and

(c) the criterion adopted for above identification, along with the details of the budget provision Government has kept for security of these places?