

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Development of Thiruvanaikaval in Tiruchirappalli District	358.97	287.17	287.17
5.	Development of Kallanai (Grand Anaicut) in Thanjavur District	408.00	326.40	326.40
TOTAL		2047.36	1637.88	1637.88
2012-13				
1.	Construction of Tourist Interpretation Centre and Auditorium at Srirangam, Tiruchirappalli District	317.31	253.84	253.84
TOTAL		317.31	253.84	253.84
GRAND TOTAL		2364.67	1891.72	1891.72

Shortage of hotel rooms

2049. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the shortage of appropriate number of hotel rooms at tourist spots is hampering the growth of tourism industry in the country; and

(b) if so, whether Government would consider building sufficient number of hotels at tourist places in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) As per the Report of the "Working Group on Tourism" for the 12th Five year Plan (2012-17) set up by the Planning Commission, for a projected annual growth of 12% in Foreign Tourist Arrivals, the requirement of additional hotel rooms under classified category in 2016 over 2010 is estimated to be 1,90,108.

(b) Construction of hotel is primarily a private sector activity. The Ministry of Tourism Government of India only classifies operational hotels under its voluntary scheme of classification/approval of hotels.

In order to give stimulus for construction of new hotels, the Government of India extends the following incentives to hotel industry:

- (i) Five Year Tax Holiday for 2, 3 and 4 Star category hotels located in all UNESCO declared World Heritage sites (Except Mumbai and Delhi) for hotels operating *w.e.f.* 01.04.2004 to 31.03.2013.
- (ii) Extension of Investment Linked tax incentives under Section 35AD of the Income Tax Act to new hotels of 2-Star category and above anywhere in India, which will facilitate growth of accommodation in the country.
- (iii) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has de-linked credit for hotel projects from Commercial Real Estate (CRE), thereby enabling hotel projects to avail credit at relaxed norms and reduced interest rates.
- (iv) Hotel and Tourism related industry has been declared a high priority industry and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is allowed upto 100% under the automatic route.

The Ministry of Finance, Government of India has also included the following in the 'Harmonized list of Infrastructure sub Sector' to boost supply of hotel rooms in the country:

- (i) Three Star or higher category classified hotels located outside cities with population of more than 1 million.
- (ii) Hotels with a project cost of more than ₹ 200 crore each in any place in India and of any star rating.

Making India a hub of medical tourism

2050. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any plan to increase India's share in world tourism market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of country's present share; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to make India a hub of medical tourism and also to showcase the important tourist spots of the country to the outside world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Important initiatives taken by the Government to increase India's share in world tourism market include:

- Introduction of facility of e-Tourist Visa for the citizens of 150 countries at 16 airports including extension of Visa on Arrival facility to the nationals of Japan.