

Tourist advisories against visiting Kashmir

2052. MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the countries in Europe and America have tourist advisories against visiting Kashmir; and

(b) whether Government has discussed about removing the advisories in view of improved security situation in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Travel advisories are issued by various countries from time to time advising their citizens to avoid travel or to take precautions while travelling to other countries/certain areas in other countries for various reasons. Countries like USA, Germany, France, Spain, Austria have issued travel alert to their citizens regarding travel to some parts of Kashmir. The Ministry of Tourism through the Ministry of External Affairs and Indian Missions abroad takes up the matter regarding lifting of such travel advisories as and when issued by any country to avoid adverse impact on tourism to the country.

The Ministry also provides information about the correct ground situation in the country regularly through its overseas offices to mitigate the impact of travel advisories issued, if any.

Foreign tourist visits to the State of Jammu and Kashmir have shown an increase from 78802 in 2012 to 86477 in 2014.

Eco-tourism around freshwater lakes

2053. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to build eco-tourism around the freshwater lakes in the country;

(b) if so, the proposal of Government to develop such eco-friendly spots in hill slopes surrounding the lakes thereof;

(c) whether Government has received consultation projects from the North-East States thereon; and

(d) if so, the plan details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) For development of tourism infrastructure in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has launched the Swadesh Darshan Scheme-Integrated Development

of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits, in 2014-15. Eco Circuit has been identified as one of the thirteen thematic circuits for development under the Scheme. The Ministry has sanctioned following projects to various State Governments under Eco Circuit theme of Swadesh Darshan Scheme:

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amt. Sanctioned
1.	Integrated Development of Eco-Tourism, Adventure Sports, Associated Tourism related Infrastructure for Development of Tehri Lake and Surroundings as New Destination-District Tehri, Uttarakhand.	80.37
2.	Integrated Development of Eco Tourism Circuit in Mahaboobnagar District, Telangana.	91.62
3.	Development of Pathanamthitta–Gavi–Vagamon–Thekkady as Eco Tourism Circuit in Idduki and Pathanamthitta Districts in Kerala.	99.22

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Tourism has received project proposals from the North East States under the themes of North East India Circuit, Wildlife Circuit and Tribal Circuit of Swadesh Darshan Scheme. The details of projects sanctioned to these States during 2014-15 and 2015-16 are given in the Statement.

Statement

The details of the projects sanctioned to the States of North East Region under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme in the year 2014-15 and 2015-16.

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of Theme	State	Name of Project	Amt. Sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5
2014-15				
1.	North East India Circuit	Arunachal Pradesh	Development of Bhalukpong–Bomdila–Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh	49.77
2015-16				
1.	North East India Circuit	Manipur	Development of Tourist Circuit in Manipur: Imphal–Moirang–Khongjom–Moreh	89.66

1	2	3	4	5
2.	North East India Circuit	Sikkim	Development of Tourist Circuit linking—Rangpo (entry)—Rorathang-Aritar-Phadamchen—Nathang-Sherathang-Tsongmo—Gangtok-Phodong-Mangan—Lachung-Yumthang-Lachen—Thangu-Gurudongmer-Mangan—Gangtok-Tumin Lingee-Singtam (exit) in Sikkim	98.05
3.	North East India Circuit	Arunachal Pradesh	Integrated Development of Adventure Tourism in Arunachal Pradesh	97.14
4.	Tribal Circuit	Nagaland	Development of Tribal Circuit Peren-Kohima-Wokha, Nagaland	97.36
5.	Wildlife Circuit	Assam	Wildlife Circuit of Assam	95.67
6.	North East India Circuit	Tripura	Development of North East Circuit: Agartala-Sipahijala—Melaghar—Udaipur—Amarpur—Tirthamukh—Mandirghat—Dumboor-NarikelKunja—Gandachara—Ambassa	99.59
7.	Eco Circuit	Mizoram	Integrated Development of New Eco-Tourism at Thenzawl, Reike and South Zote	94.91

Revenue generated from foreign tourists

†2054. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign tourists who visited tourist spots in the country in each of the last three years and the total revenue generated from them every year;

(b) whether the number of foreign tourists has come down due to insecure and intolerant environment in the country; and

(c) the policy/action plan of Government to attract foreign tourists?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.