

(c) if not, the details of inflow of the foreign tourists to the country from the financial year 2011-12 to 2015-16?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India during 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 along with the growth registered over previous year are as below:

Year	FTAs (in million)	Growth rate (%)
2011-12	6.49	9.5
2012-13	6.66	2.6
2013-14	7.12	7.0
2014-15	7.76	8.9
2015-16 (P)	8.25	6.4

P: Provisional

#### **Status of HDPB**

†1961. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Hospitality Development and Promotion Board (HDPB);

(b) by when Government plans to establish HDPB in each State;

(c) the names of the States where HDPB has been established and the details of progress made so far in this regard; and

(d) the State-wise details of the amount allocated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Hospitality Development and Promotion Board (HDPB) was created in the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India *vide* Notification issued on 21.01.2011.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has no plan to set up HDPB in every State/Union Territories. However, all State Government and Union Territories have been advised to set up similar Boards in their respective States/Union Territories. As on date, the State Government of Maharashtra has set up this board.

(d) The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has not allocated any funds in this regard.

**Status of rural tourism in the country**

1962. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the status of rural tourism in the country;
- (b) whether Government has the details about the tourists who visited sites/villages identified for rural tourism;
- (c) if so, the details of the last three years thereof;
- (d) whether Government is allocating any special funds for rural tourism projects; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) to (c) India has witnessed positive growth over the years on Foreign Tourist Visits (FTVs) as well as Domestic Tourist Visits (DTVs). During 2015, the number of DTVs to the States/UTs was 1432 Million as compared to 1282.8 Million in 2014 registering a growth of 11.63% over 2014 and the FTVs was 23.3 Million in 2015 as compared to 22.3 Million 2014 registering a growth of 4.4%. These visits also include visits of foreign tourists as well as domestic tourists to the sites/villages identified for Rural Tourism.

However, Ministry of Tourism does not compile separate data of tourist visits to sites.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Tourism had a Rural Tourism Scheme which was a part of Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits (PIDDC) Scheme. The main objective of this scheme was showcasing rural life, art, culture and heritage in villages, which have core competence in art & craft, handloom, textiles, natural environment etc. Under this scheme, Central Financial Assistance (CFA) upto ₹50.00 lakh for infrastructure development was provided to the State/UT Government. The details of the projects sanctioned during Twelfth Plan Period is given in the Statement (*See below*).