

ready projects from the States/Union Territories. The issues discussed included investment in core infrastructure for tourism; Digital India and Start-up India: Investing in Tourism Technology; Panel discussion on MICE and Medical Tourism, etc. 86 MoUs were signed by the State Governments of Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand with investors during the Summit.

Development of tourist places in Jammu province of J&K

2546. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH MANHAS: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that special emphasis is being laid for the development of tourist places in Jammu province of Jammu and Kashmir State; and

(b) whether Government plans to release special funds for the development of Patnitop, Mansar Lake, Krimchi and Panchairi in Udhampur district and Surinsar Lake in Jammu district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Reconstruction Plan announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister for the State of Jammu and Kashmir on 7.11.2015 includes Development of New Tourism Projects for ₹2000 crore (₹ 400 crore for five years), Construction of Government Tourist assets in lieu of damaged/destroyed assets for ₹100 crore and ₹141 crore for on going and existing projects sanctioned under Prime Minister Reconstruction Plan 2004.

The following projects have been sanctioned under this Package:—

(₹ in crore)			
Sl. No.	Name of the Project/Year of sanction	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4
1.	Integrated Development of Tourist Facilities at Jammu-Rajouri-Shopian-Pulwama Circuit under Himalayan Circuit Theme. (2016-17)	96.38	19.28
2.	Integrated Development of Tourist Facilities under the Construction of Assets <i>in lieu</i> of those Destroyed in Floods in 2014 under Himalayan Circuit Theme. (2016-17)	98.70	19.74

1	2	3	4
3.	Integrated Development of Tourist facilities at Mantalai-Sudhmahadev- Patnitop under Himalayan Circuit Theme. (2016-17)	97.82	19.56
4.	Integrated Development of Tourist Facilities at Anantnag- Kishtwar- Pahalgam - Daksum - Ranjit Sagar Dam Circuit under Himalayan Circuit Theme. (2016-17)	96.39	19.28
5.	Integrated Development of Tourist Facilities at Gulmarg- Baramulla-Kupwara-Leh Circuit under Himalayan Circuit Theme. (2016-17)	96.93	19.39
TOTAL		486.22	97.25

In addition to above, Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned one project for Integrated Development of Tourism Infrastructure Projects in J&K under Himalayan Circuit Theme in Swadesh Darshan Scheme with Central Financial Assistance of ₹82.97 crore in 2016-17.

Reduction in number of tourists to North India due to pollution

2547. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed any reduction in the number of tourists visiting North India due to a post-Diwali polluted atmosphere;

(b) if so, the estimated economic impact due to reduction in the number of tourists; and

(c) what steps, if any, have been taken by Government so far to prevent such an economic loss?

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

Increase in the number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India at the International Check Posts (ICPs) of North India, which include Amritsar Airport, Attari rail, Attari-wagah land check post, Banbasa land check post, Chandigarh Airport, Delhi Airport, Lucknow Airport, Sonauli land check post and Varanasi Airport, has been observed during October and November 2016.

The number of FTAs at the ICPs of North India during October 2016 and November 2016 was 2.73 lakhs and 3.14 lakhs, respectively. The growth registered in FTAs during