

Financial assistance to eco tourism projects

1599. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how many eco-tourism projects are functioning in the country, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) to what extent eco-tourism has benefited the local people and the details thereof;

(c) whether any financial assistance from Government is given to such projects in India; and

(d) the details of financial assistance given to eco-tourism projects in Kerala during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Tourism under Swadesh Darshan Scheme provides Central Financial Assistance to State Governments/Union Territories/Central Agencies for developing tourism infrastructure in the identified circuits, across the country in a planned and prioritized manner. Eco circuit is one of the fifteen thematic circuits identified for development under the Scheme.

The details of projects sanctioned under this circuit in the country including Kerala are as follows:—

(₹ in crore)			
Sl.No.	State/Sanction Year	Project Name	Amt. Sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1.	Uttarakhand 2015-16	Integrated Development of Eco-Tourism, Adventure Sports, Associated Tourism related Infrastructure for Development of Tehri Lake and Surroundings as New Destination	80.37
2.	Telangana 2015-16	Integrated Development of Eco Tourism Circuit in Mahaboobnagar district	91.62
3.	Kerala 2015-16	Development of Pathanamthitta-Gavi-Vagamon-Thekkady as Eco Tourism Circuit in Idduki and Pathanamthitta Districts	90.06

1	2	3	4
4.	Mizoram 2016-17	Development of Aizawl -Rawpuichhip-Khawhphawp-Lengpui-Durtlang-Chatlang-Sakawrhmutuaitlang-Muthee-Beratlawng-Tuirial Airfield-Hmuifang	99.07
5.	Madhya Pradesh 2017-18	Development of Gandhisagar Dam-Mandleshwar Dam-Omkareshwar Dam-Indira Sagar Dam-Tawa Dam-Bargi Dam-Bheda Ghat-Bansagar Dam-Ken River	99.62

All the above projects are at various stages of implementation/completion. Once completed, the projects are expected to increase the tourist footfall at the sites which in turn will create more employment opportunities for the locals.

Eco Circuit Tourism in Tamil Nadu

1600. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Eco-Circuit Tourism has been earmarked in the State of Tamil Nadu Integrated Development of Theme Based Tourism Circuits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI K. J. ALPHONS): (a) to (c) Under the Swadesh Darshan scheme-Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits, projects are identified for development in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, submission of suitable detailed project reports, adherence to scheme guidelines and utilization of funds released earlier.

The Ministry has not received any proposal from the State Government under Eco-Circuit Tourism.

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA — Contd.

Report of the Joint Committee on The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, why are you calling a break like this? It is ten past one. ...*(Interruptions)*...