

**Action plan to develop pilgrim places**

†410. SHRI JANESHWAR MISIIRA:

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any action plan to develop the ancient places of tourist destination pilgrimage situated in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the details of places of pilgrimage in Uttar Pradesh included therein?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Development of Tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/ UT Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance to States/UTs for development of Destinations/Circuits including pilgrim sites under its Scheme of 'Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits'. During Tenth Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned Rs. 95.90 crore for 44 projects for development and promotion of tourist sites, including pilgrim sites, in the State of Uttar Pradesh. The details of the projects are given in the Statement.

**Statement****Action Plan to Develop Pilgrim places**

*Projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism during the  
Tenth Five Year Plan for the State of Uttar Pradesh*

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Sanctioned Amount (Rs. in lakh)	Released Amount (Rs. in lakh)
1	2	3	4
1.	Development of Rajendra Ghat and Dashashmegh Ghat at Varanasi	29.00	29.00
2.	Development of Dhammachakkappa-vattana Udyan at Sarnath	72.00	72.00
3.	Signages	5.00	5.00
4.	Development of land around Chaukhandi Stupa at Varanasi	90.00	90.00
5.	Ganga Festival at Varanasi	2.50	2.50
6.	Beautification of Pacca Talab at Etawa	164.04	131.23
7.	SEL Show at Sarnath (Buddhist Circuit Phase-II)	352.00	316.00
8.	Construction of Interpretation centre/ Shopping centre, Fatehpur Sikri	495.80	495.80

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

1	2	3	4
9.	Development and Beautification of Ram ki Paidi at Ayodhya	98.18	98.18
10.	Ramayana Mela at Chitrakoot	2.50	2.50
11.	Renovation of Radha Kund and Shyam Kund in Mathura District	145.35	116.28
12.	Development of Ma Shakumbhari Devi Temple; (2) Baba Haridas Mandir and (3) Qutabe Alam Dargah at Gangoh in Saharanpur	49.28	40.00
13.	GOI-UNDP Endogenous project at village Bhaguwala, Distt. Saharanpur	19.75	15.50
14.	Floodlighting of Mahatma Gandhi statue at Hazarat Ganj, Lucknow	11.84	10.75
15.	Celebration of Ganga Festival	2.50	2.50
16.	Setting up of modern reception centre at Gorakhpur	245.66	200.00
17.	Extension and Development of Assi Ghat at Varanasi	464.78	362.00
18.	Celebration of Lathmar Holi festival at Barsana	5.00	4.00
19.	Renovation and Beautification of Kusum Sarovar at Goverdhan (Distt. Mathura)	100.77	80.66
20.	Beautification of Kali Vahan Temple at Etawah	46.90	37.52
21.	Celebration of Ayurveda Yoga Mahotsava at Jhansi	2.50	2.50
22.	Development of Rae Bareli and surrounding area under destination scheme	490.27	392.21
23.	Development of Mirzapur-Chunar-Robertsganj under Vindhya tourist circuit	800.00	640.00
24.	Beautification/Renovation construction of TICC Fort Complex at Etawah	55.68	44.54
25.	Infrastructure and Destination development in Dudhwa National Park in Distt. Kheri (U.P.)	312.60	250.08
26.	Development of Surhatal Shahid Smarak, Ballia as a Tourist Destination	205.20	164.16

1	2	3	4
27.	Development of Bhitar Gram, Distt. Rae Bareli as a Rural Tourism Destination	49.52	39.62
28.	Development of Katerniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary in Distt. Bahraich (U.P.)	105.00	84.00
29.	Development of Rural Tourism at Village Mukhrai, Distt. Mathura	45.89	36.00
30.	Development and Beautification of Nana Rao Smarak at Bithor in Distt. Kanpur Nagar	422.17	337.00
31.	Renovation and Beautification of Chhatries of Goverdhan at District Mathura	58.60	46.88
32.	* Payment of Consultancy Fee plus 10.2% statutory tax to HUDCO, New Delhi	13.22	13.22
33.	Preparation of site survey plan of Parikrama Path for Goverdhan and Vrindavan research institute at Vrindavan	0.79	0.79
34.	Integrated Development of Agra Revitalization and visitor management for Taj Mahal Vicinity as a special Destination	767.00	613.60
35.	Development of Ghuisarnath Dham Pratapgrah	258.09	206.47
36.	Investors Meet at Agra in February, 2006	15.00	12.00
37.	Development of Garhmukteshwar- Brijghat	256.80	205.44
38.	Development of Brij Chaurasi Kos Parikrama Tourist Circuit-(Madhurvan Maholi-Jatipura Goverdhan Vrindavan-Maha Vidhya) in Mathura	441.53	353.22
39.	Revitalization of Varanasi as a Special Tourist Destination	786.00	628.80
40.	Integration development of Agra-Revitalization and visitor management for Taj Mahal	758.00	606.40
41.	Development of various places in Aligarh Distt.	497.04	397.63
42.	Development of Simoni Tourist Complex, Distt. Banda	397.86	318.29
	Celebration of Deo Deepawali Festival at Varanasi	3.00	2.40

1	2	3	4
44.	Integrated Development of Mahabharat Tourist Circuit	445.63	356.50
TOTAL:		9590.24	7863.17

### Foreign Tourists visiting India

411. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:  
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had a record 13 per cent growth in foreign tourist arrivals last year compared to 3.93 million foreigners visited the country in 2005 and 4.43 million people had visited India in 2006 and the Ministry is eyeing an ambitious target of 10 million foreign visitors by the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan in 2011;

(b) whether the country is still a long way from achieving its full tourism potential comparing China and Singapore have a larger volume of international visitors; and

(c) the concrete measures Ministry is considering to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) The number of foreign tourist arrival to India during 2006 is provisionally estimated to be 4.45 million, recording an increase of 13.5% over the corresponding figures of 3.92 million during 2005. The Working Group on Tourism for the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) has set a target of 10 million international visitors in 2011, at the end of Eleventh Plan.

(b) and (c) The steps being taken by the Government for achieving its full potential in tourism and for attracting more foreign tourist to India include:-

- Development of tourist spots under its various schemes of infrastructure development for tourist circuits and destinations;
- Focusing on growth of hotel infrastructure particularly budget hotels;
- Enhancing connectivity through augmentation of air capacity and improving road infrastructure to major tourist attractions;
- Direct approach to the consumers through Electronic and Print media through the "Incredible India" Campaign;
- Creation of World Class Collaterals;
- Direct co-operative marketing with the Airlines, tour operators and wholesalers overseas; According greater focus in the emerging markets particularly in the region of China, North East Asia and South East Asia;
- Participation in Trade Fairs & Exhibitions;