

श्री एकनाथ के. ठाकुर: सर, हम पीछे बैठे हैं, कभी हमें भी मौका दीजिए।

श्री सभापति: नम्बर आ जाएगा, लेकिन अगर आने वाले आने दें तो। आप जरा मेरी मदद करिए, मैं आगे वालों को मौका नहीं दूँ।

श्री प्रेम गुप्ता: सर, इस पर आधे घंटे की डिस्कशन करा दीजिए। यह सरकार के लिए भी फायदेमंद चीज है। They would get some information to take action... (Interruptions)...

श्री सभापति: आप मुझे लिखकर दीजिए, फिर मैं देखूँगा।

श्री लालू प्रसाद: सर, 'डब्बा' का क्या हुआ?

श्री लालू प्रसाद: 'डब्बा' बिहार में नहीं मिला। नैक्स्ट क्वेश्चन।

श्री लालू प्रसाद: सर, बड़े-बड़े शहरों में 'टप्पा' होता है और बदनाम बिहार होता है। देखिए न, भेद खोल दिया।

श्री सभापति: यही ठीक है, 'टप्पा' होता है बड़े-बड़े शहरों में, बिहार में 'डब्बा' होता है।

श्री लालू प्रसाद: गोल गप्पा...

श्री सभापति: गोल गप्पा, डप्पा, खप्पा यह सब बिहार में होता है। नैक्स्ट क्वेश्चन।

Development of tourism infrastructure in Tamil Nadu

*128. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether any project has been sanctioned for the development of Tourism infrastructure in Tamil Nadu during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details of the project with financial allocation; and

(c) the State-wise number of projects completed during the last three years?

[29 July, 2003]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The following works for development of tourism infrastructure in the state of Tamil Nadu have been sanctioned in the Tenth Plan so far by the Department of Tourism:

		(Rs. in lakhs)
Sl. No	Project	Amount sanctioned
1.	Development of Park near the Shore temple, Mahabalipuram	200.00
2.	Development near the Five Rathas, Mahabalipuram	300.00
3.	Works at Giggie Fort	37.50
4.	Flood Lighting at Sri Brigadeeshwara Temple, Thanjavur	16.50

The Department of Culture has sanctioned the following projects during 10th Plan:-

		(Rs. in lakhs)
Sl. No	Project	Amount sanctioned released
1.	Development of Jain Temple, Torapadi, Villupuram	10.43
2.	Vivekananda rock Memorial and Vivekananda Kendra	176.50
3.	Madras University	50.00
4.	Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari for setting up of Gramodaya Darshan Park	34.00
		(Balance)

Apart from this, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has allocated a sum of Rs. 120 lakhs for conservation of various monuments in the State of Tamil Nadu for 2003-04.

All State Governments/Union Territory Administrations including Govt. of Tamil Nadu have been requested to submit project proposals under the following schemes for the financial year 2003-04:-

1. Integrated development of travel circuits
2. Product/Infrastructure and Destination development
3. Assistance for Large Revenue generating projects

After detailed discussions and spot inspections held recently at Kanyakumari and neighbouring areas, following decisions have been taken for improvement at Kanyakumari and neighbouring areas:

(a) Protection of the Rock under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.

(b) Illumination of the Rock Memorial

(c) Setting up of suitable accommodation

(d) Organising of Cultural Function

(e) Improvement of Vattakottai Fort

(f) Improvement of beaches at Muttom, Thekkurichi, Trengapattinam, Sangulthurai and Sothavilal

Similarly after inspection of works at Kanchipuram it has been decided to take up road works at an approximate cost of Rs. 2.6 crores within the township.

(c) Necessary information is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

State-wise number of Tourism projects Completed during the period from 2000-01 to 2002-03

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of the projects completed
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12
2.	Assam	6
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	8
4.	Bihar	4
5.	Chattisgarh	3
6.	Goa	8

[29 July, 2003]

RAJYA SABHA

Sl. No	State/UT	Number of the projects completed
7.	Gujarat -	8
8.	Haryana	2
9.	Himachal Pradesh	10
10.	J and K	16
11.	Jharkhand	6
12.	Karnataka	1
13.	Kerala	15
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4
15.	Maharashtra	6
16.	Manipur	2
17.	Meghalaya	-
18.	Mizoram	11
19.	Nagaland	12
20.	Orissa	3
21.	Punjab	5
22.	Rajashtan	6
23.	Sikkim	27
24.	Tamil Nadu	2
25.	Tripura	5
26.	Uttaranchal	3
27.	Uttar Pradesh	4
28.	West Bengal	17
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	1
30.	Chandigarh	9
31.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	3
32.	Delhi	8
33.	Daman and Diu	2
34.	Lakshdweep	1
35.	Pondicherry	3

SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister in his reply has stated that the Government have sanctioned eight projects in the Tenth Five Year Plan, amounting to Rs. 8.5 crores. Sir, this small amount of Rs. 8.5 crores for the entire Five Year Plan will, definitely, not be sufficient to develop the tourism infrastructure expected by the State of Tamil Nadu.

And, as per the new Tourism Policy, 2002, the State Governments have to be mobilised to use tourism as a means for achieving their socio-economic objectives. But, in reality, only one centre in each State is undertaken by the Government every year. By adopting this method of undertaking of a minimum number of schemes, how can we achieve the desired level of objectives in developing tourism in our country? So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would consider increasing the number of centres to be undertaken every year. I would also like to know whether the Government would also consider undertaking tourism zones, instead of undertaking a centre so that the tourism infrastructure can be developed fully.

MR. JAGMOHAN: Sir, I have already made it clear that we are not going in for small tourist spots. We are taking up hubs which occupy a lot of area. I have personally gone five times to Tamil Nadu during the last one year and a large number of hubs are being developed there. The first one is in Mahabalipuram. The second one is in Kanyakumari. And, the third one is in Kanchipuram. Apart from this, the ASI is spending a lot of money—about Rs. 18 crores on it. Sir, a large number of beaches have also been taken up for their improvement. A hotel management institute and other things, under the capacity building programme, have also been taken up. In fact, Tamil Nadu has benefited quite a lot from our projects during the last one year. They have acknowledged it. Sir, about Rs. 18 crores have already been made available to them during the last two years. I have already given the names of the hubs and the improvements that have been made. Apart from this, there is going to be a circuit around Chennai—From Chennai to Pondicherry via Arikkamedu—and also from Chennai to Tirupati and to Mahabalipuram. So, all these projects are there. And, there are a large number of components added, hubs plus circuits plus capacity building plus development of beaches plus environment development around and inside these archaeological sites.

SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Sir, the interaction, between tourism and environmental body requires a very close, regular and fast handling of cases. Many tourism projects require clearance from the environmental bodies, which makes delays in implementing the schemes. In our CM's constituency, one small beautiful waterfall, Chinna Suruli, is situated. Laying of an approach road is not possible due to the pending clearance

from the environmental body. We also have another beautiful waterfall, Kumbakarai, where the basic amenity, even the construction of a toilet is not approved in the name of environmental protection. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, will the Government consider forming a joint group or a team, comprising representatives from the ministries concerned, to look into the issue for an early solution and fast implementation of schemes since the environmental issues are always interlinked with the tourism.

SHRI JAGMOHAN: Sir, I have already said that we are taking up hubs in which various elements are synthesized—elements of culture, elements of tourism, elements of environment and elements of clean civic life. All these elements are taken into account while formulating a scheme. The environmental factor, because of the Environment Act, has to be taken into account. We have cleared a very large number of projects. There may be one or two projects, here and there, falling within the prohibited area, which could not be sanctioned. But, as I have said, a very large number of projects, like the Kanyakumari Projects, the cost of which runs into several crores of rupees—light and sound show, lighting show, plus museum, plus renovation of Kendra. Many other projects are there. Therefore, it is for the Ministry of Environment to clear this small project, which has been held up due to environmental clearance. So far as we are concerned, we are ourselves formulating the proposals. We are sanctioning the projects. That is how the projects have been going with a top speed in all these areas. And, I would like to inform the hon. Member that in Tamil Nadu there has been 37 per cent increase in domestic tourism in one year. In one year, there has been 37 per cent increase in domestic tourism, and the Government of Tamil Nadu had a supplement only a few months back. They have acknowledged our contribution to that.

प्रो. रामगोपाल यादव:सभापति महोदय, मेरा सवाल “सी” पार्ट से संबंधित है। हालांकि हिंदी अनुवाद बहुत गलत हुआ है, काफी कन्फ्यूजिंग क्वेश्चन है। अंग्रेजी में बिल्कुल साफ है कि “The State-wise number of projects completed during the last three years.” मैं कंपलीट की गई योजनाओं के बारे में नहीं पूछना चाहता हूँ। मैं सिर्फ यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या पिछले 3 सालों में ताज कॉरीडोर योजना स्वीकृत हुई थी, जिसके चलते आज इतना विवाद चल रहा है और आपका इस्तीफा मांगा जा रहा है। मैं सिर्फ इसके बारे में जानना चाहता हूँ।

SHRI JOGMOHAN: Sir, for the Taj Project, for the so-called 'Corridor Project', as I have stated earlier, the nodal Ministry is the Ministry of Environment. As per the information given by the Ministry of Environment, and also stated in the Lok Sabha, and here also, no such clearance was obtained from the Ministry of Environment or from the Ministry of tourism and Culture. There is no such sanctioned project. There is no approval for this project.

श्री प्रेम गुप्ता: तो आपसे इस्तीफा क्यों मांग रहे हैं?

SHRI C. PERUMAL: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any steps have been taken to improve the Hogenakkal Waterfall Tourism Project, in Dharmapuri district in Tamil Nadu, because it is very, very important and beautiful tourism center in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI JAGMOHAN: Sir, this project would be taken up in consultation with the State Government. If any such project comes to us, we will certainly consider that.

PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Sir, recently, our Minister of Tourism and Culture had visited Kanyakumari. He had spent three days there with the peoples' representatives and officials. He had sanctioned so many works for Thanjavur etc. But, the other hand, the Thiruvalluvar statue, which was erected in 1997, has not been developed as expected. So, will the Ministry of Tourism spend more money on that project?

SHRI JAGMOHAN: Sir, as the hon. Member has stated, I was at Kanyakumari for three days. A large number of items had been taken up for improvement there. I thank him for acknowledging it. So far as the status is concerned, one of the items that we are considering is, linking the statues with that rock. I have asked the technical people to examine this, and work out how much it will cost. We are lighting the Kendra Project. We will light the statue also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.