

requirement a lot of work has been given to Jamalpur Workshop. I have also visited the workshop.

[English]

SHRI PARASNATH YADAV : Sir, Maduadeeh Diesel Locomotive in Uttar Pradesh was set up in 1959 and the first Diesel Locomotive was rolled out in 1965. This factory is considered to be the best Diesel Engine factory of Asia. Technicians and Engineers of this factory have become competent enough and since 1970-71 they can themselves manufacture the parts which are required for Diesel Engine. In spite of that for earning commissions the officers/employees there import the components of the engine from abroad. I would like to know from the hon'ble minister the reasons thereof and whether he will make inquiry into this scandal and stop it.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, diesel locomotive works is the workshop of Railways where Diesel Engines are manufactured. A decision for bringing new technology for Diesel Engines has already been taken.

SHRI PARASNATH YADAV : When this workshop has already become competent, what is the need to procure the parts from abroad?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : New locomotives are being imported for freight and passenger trains along with the transfer of technology. Keeping in view the transfer of technology the Cabinet have approved the proposal of expansion for Diesel Locomotive Works. Now, new and developed Diesel engines would be manufactured there.

Tourism Projects from States

*322. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the tourism projects submitted by the various State Governments to the Union Government during 1998, State-wise; and

(b) the projects approved by the Union Government along with financial assistance given, State/Project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Each year Ministry of Tourism in consultation with the State Govts. prioritize projects for Central financial assistance. The state wise details of projects prioritised, received and sanctioned during 1998-99 are given in the annexure.

The funds for the projects are sanctioned on receipt of detailed project proposals as per the guidelines.

ANNEXURE

State-wise details of projects prioritised, received and sanctioned during 1998-99

Sl. No	State	No. of Project prioritised	Amount Prioritised (In lakhs)	No. of Projects received	No. of projects sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	367.08	13	10	274.08
2.	Assam	16	527.00	13	8	267.03
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	432.00	4	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Bihar	15	325.00	13	5	84.00
5.	Goa	17	411.00	18	10	201.50
6.	Gurarat	15	400.00	12	6	110.89
7.	Haryana	12	312.00	11	5	154.63
8.	Himachal Prdesh	12	532.00	11	8	305.00
9.	J&K	21	710.00	16	2	70.00
10.	Karnataka	16	495.30	15	9	299.82
11.	Kerala	15	467.00	13	6	169.01
12.	Madhya Pradesh	17	421.00	11	1	69.75
13.	Maharashtra	15	364.00	14	8	210.05
14.	Manipur	13	220.00	8	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	15	180.00	13	6	61.82
16.	Mizoram	8	165.00	8	5	114.47
17.	Nagaland	10	200.00	8	7	170.00
18.	Orissa	7	368.00	5	3	129.60
19.	Punjab	8	402.34	8	6	239.29

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
20.	Rajasthan	25	431.00	22	13	136.55
21.	Sikkim	23	302.00	22	4	29.35
22.	Tamil Nadu	20	435.00	19	13	187.81
23.	Tripura	10	310.00	9	3	21.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	35	740.00	27	8	151.32
25.	West Bengal	20	350.00	15	2	90.00
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	6	200.00	—	—	—
27.	Chandigarh	8	113.00	5	2	47.91
28.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	5	82.00	5	1	10.00
29.	Delhi	19	350.00	13	11	132.23
30.	Daman	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Lakshadweep	3	31.00	1	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	11	189.00	4	—	—
Total		435	10831.72	354	162	3737.11

(1) Projects referred back to State Governments for clarifications—40

(2) Projects under process—152

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the reply of the Minister, out of five projects submitted by the State Government of Orissa, three projects have been sanctioned. But the Minister has not mentioned as to what are the projects which were submitted and what are the projects which were sanctioned. He may see that the question asked was not with regard to the number of projects; rather I had asked about the name of the projects and project-wise financial assistance.

Sir, there is a lot of tourism potential in the State of Orissa and it needs development to attract the tourists. One such project is the Buddhist Circuit in Orissa, that is, from Dhaulagiri to Ratnagiri, Lalitgiri and Udayagiri. A very good museum has come into existence in Ratnagiri which needs expansion. After excavation it is understood that Pushpa Vihar, a university was there and a famous edict of Ashoka was there on the bank of Gaya in Dhaulagiri. During the tenure of the previous Government, the project of the Buddhist Circuit of Orissa was to be taken up for development with the assistance of Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund for which a Japanese Delegation had come and there were two rounds of discussions.

Besides this, the Planning Commission had recommended to provide funds for initial infrastructural development for this Buddhist Circuit. I would also like to know about the Japanese Inn came as far back as in 1980 in Lumbini, Vaishali and Dhaulagiri. Still nothing has been done for Dhaulagiri.

So, I would like to know the fate of the Buddhist Circuit in Orissa. Will the Government pursue the matter for its approval and take it up with the Ministry of Finance for special allocation?

SHRI OMAK APANG : During my last visit, Madam, along with me, you also did participate in the Seminar. With her initiative, and with the initiatives of previous Chief Ministers, we had prioritised Tourist Reception Centre, Rourkela, Tourist Reception Centre Parlakimidi, Tourist Reception Centre, Dhankanal, and as far as other projects are concerned, they are under process.

Last time, we did celebrate a big Buddhist Mahotsava, Yesterday, we had a meeting. I remember during my visit to Orissa the matter regarding excavation activities which took place there came to me, I had a meeting with the OECF and submitted a paper to them on behalf of her State Government. OECF is not going to approve this project. But I am going to take it up next time along with the cases of Ajanta and Ellora. Now, we are going to include it in the second phase of Buddhist Mahotsava programme which we are going to have next month.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : The Union Government has been adopting strategies to develop tourism. I would like to know whether the suggestion by the State Government to implement the Special Tourism Programme for special tourism area is being considered and whether the State Government had identified an area of about 3500 acres of land towards South of Puri for this purpose. Why had not the Government taken keen interest, specially, on the five pockets which had been identified in this country?

SHRI OMAK APANG : Sir, Orissa has been doing very well. During the previous Government's time, they had identified 3600 acres of land near Puri and Chilika. The day before yesterday also, I had a meeting with a group of NRIs from Germany who are very keen to develop that area, especially the Dolphin and the nearby areas. This Government had given an amount to the tune of Rs. 25 lakh for the Master Plan. After their initiative, the Government would like to do it on a turn-key basis. We are following it. We will give you the details.

SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Thank you very much for the opportunity given to me. It is mentioned in the statement that the funds for the projects will be sanctioned on the receipt of detailed project proposals as per the guidelines. I want to know whether the hon. Minister is aware of guidelines proposed by the Tourism Department, and whether they are sufficient and relevant. Without taking into consideration the different levels of socio-economic development of the States like Kerala, they are suggesting construction of *Yatri Niwas*. They are suggesting construction of way side amenities. They are not allowing the projects beyond Rs. 50 lakh. They are not allowing even purchase of lands. This is a conservative approach. This will not help development of tourism in Kerala which has attained a special position as far as the social and economic lives are concerned.

That is why he has allowed only a meagre amount to Bakelam Tourism Project. This is the most important tourism project of Kerala and not only that but it helped India to figure in the world tourism map also. So, I would request the hon. Minister to reevaluate and to consider the change of priorities or the modalities or the guidelines proposed for tourism development.

SHRI OMAK APANG: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank the hon. member for his suggestions. Kerala and Rajasthan are the leaders of tourism in this country today. The Kerala system of including the local Governments of the district council, as a member has said, is very remarkable, we have certain plans in Varkallai and other places. Especially it is a concern to me and my Tourism Ministry. We would like to give an assistance to the people of

Kerala especially to those who are facing the CRZ coastal problem because all the places are so close to the sea.

With regard to the land procurement and also the LOC, we had requested the Government and we are going to omit that condition.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ADITYANATH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has told about the proposals received from the various states. The Union Government has received 27 proposals from Uttar Pradesh and out of them 8 have been approved. I would like to know, through you, from the hon'ble Minister about the progress regarding the proposal of the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh for the development of the Bandh Paripaths sent to the Union Government?

[*English*]

SHRI OMAK APANG : There was a very big festival with the present Government's initiative and it was an International *Bodh Mahotsav* which we had declared last year and which had given a very good message to the world across, especially to the Buddhist countries and the western world for the peace movement by India. It was done on the initiative of the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

Yesterday, we had a meeting on the *Bodh Mahotsav*. Some of the projects come late because of the initiative from the States concerned. The financial assistance system is 30:50:20. This time, what we are thinking is that we will be developing more of an integrated system not only in the Bodh circuits, but the villages which are near to the Buddhist areas. We will be adopting that area into a rural tourism circuit.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the given statement 14 tourism projects of Maharashtra have been given preference. Out of them 8 have been approved and 6 are yet to be approved. I belong to the state of Konkan and most of the projects of tourism development belong to it. I would like to know through you, from the hon'ble Minister as to which are the 6 projects which have not been approved till now and by which time approval would be given to them?

[*English*]

SHRI OMAK APANG : I will give details about that to the hon. Member. But I would like to inform the House

that we have declared Sindhudurg in Maharashtra as a special area for that.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, I would like to ask the following questions to the hon. Minister. As the hon. Minister has already said, Kerala and Rajasthan are prime in the tourist map of not only India but all over the world. Kerala is blessed with the sea on the one side and western ghats on the other side. Lushed with greenery and backwaters, it has great potential for tourism development. One speciality about Kerala is that all districts are having District Tourism Councils which are specially sponsoring, developing and encouraging these activities.

My question is, the District Tourism Council of Kozhikod is celebrating the Malabar Mahotsavam, especially to sponsor and encourage tourism activities in the Malabar Region.

Will the Government of India consider giving special sponsorship to this festival in which artists from all over India are invited to perform various cultural programmes, which is actually a symbol of cultural unity and integrity?

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, what is your supplementary? There are a number of Members who want to put their question.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Sir, here in the statement it is seen that out of thirteen projects, only six are cleared and only a little more than one-fourth of the total outlay is sanctioned. I would like to ask the Minister, through you, Sir, which are the projects which are not yet sanctioned, that is, pending sanction in Kerala.

MR. SPEAKER : Her question is with regard to Kerala.

SHRI OMAK APANG : Madam, Water Sports Complex, Ashtamudi, Backwater Signages, Yatri Nivas, Thirunelly, Renovation of Park View Heritage Building, Purchase of House boats for Malabar, Trekking & Rock climbing equipment for Thenmala—these are the projects which are cleared. The projects which are not cleared are: Flood lighting of Bolghatty Palace, Tourist Complex at Kalady, Tourist Reception Centres—Computerisation of Tourist reservation Systems.

Well, we will be giving assistance for certain projects about which we have discussed now. We will keep it in mind. We will really like to promote India's culture and the rich heritage of this country.

[Translation]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, would the hon'ble Minister like to state whether the Government of Rajasthan has sent any project relating to Bikaner to the Union Government? If not, would he himself take a note that Bikaner is an old city and it was also the capital of the Bikaner state. There are lot of places worth looking. A lot of tourists would come to see these places. I had requested the Minister of Tourism and also sent him in writing that arrangement be made there for Air services so that people may be able to visit it. The people there are fully cut off. In this regard I had also requested to Nitish ji but he did not listen. I had told him for constructing the broad gauge and for connecting it to the Rail. He has made it everywhere but why he is avoiding us? All the three Ministers are sitting here. I want to urge to the 'Trimurti' that whether they would consider it and do something for the development of the tourism? If other two Ministers have not done anything then would you like to work for it's development?

[English]

SHRI OMAK APANG : Sir, the hon. Minister's suggestion has been taken note of. He know about the potential of Bikaner and really Rajasthan needs assistance of the Civil Aviation and Railways also; from my Ministry and people of the trade, I would really request for their assistance, which they are giving.

MAJOR GENERAL BHUVAN CHANDRA KHANDURI, AVSM : Sir, the Garhwal Mandal of Uttaranchal Pradesh have got a unique distinction of having a variety of tourism potential. I think, it is unique in the world. Not only it has got a religious potential such as Badrinath, Kedamath, Hemkunt Sahib but it has also got the finest scope for mountaineering adventurism, adventure tourism, hiking and holidaying.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India has any plans to develop this unique potential of not only Indian but international potential of tourism by combining all these different types of tourism which are available there so that people can come from all over the world and benefit this area.

SHRI OMAK APANG : Sir, I thank the hon. Member for bringing the importance of tourism to the notice of the people.

With the Government's initiative, this year we have declared "Explore India". The Uttar Pradesh Government has come out with "Explore UP and experience India". Definitely we know about the potential of Garhwal and a lot of initiatives have taken place in UP and we will come back to you.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, both the hon. Cabinet Minister and the Minister of State are very smart and young. From the statement submitted by them, I am surprised to know that six projects pertaining to Tamil

Nadu have not yet been cleared. I would like to know why those projects have not yet been cleared; when they are going to clear them; and what is the strategy played by this Government to promote new entrepreneurs in the tourism sector.

SHRI OMAK APANG : There is a provision for giving assistance up to three per cent of one project, to a three-star hotel and subsidy is also given up to five per cent to difficult areas and hilly terrains. In Tamil Nadu due to some problems in the State we have not been able to give that money.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : What are those projects?

SHRI OMAK APANG : We have received the projects late. We will get back to the hon. Member and give all the details.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : If one sees the list of the projects which were sanctioned during 1988 and 1989, there are some States like the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Pondicherry, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh where not a single project has been sanctioned all these years. There is a tremendous potential. There are beautiful sea beaches or mountains and tourism is one of the important businesses in that area. Will the Government pay special attention to the States like Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Pondicherry, Lakshadweep and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which have already submitted the proposals and not a single proposal has been cleared?

SHRI OMAK APANG : I would like to inform the House and the people here that some of the projects which have not been cleared, because many of them were brought in at the last minute. I think it is not fair and they should bring the projects in time. Some of the projects have been received late and we have given special initiatives to the North-Eastern region and difficult areas like Jammu and Kashmir, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep. We have mentioned it during our meeting the hon. Member from Andaman & Nicobar Islands is also here—that we had certain constraints specially in areas like Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Kerala which I think have been debated here. We would request the hon. Minister for Environment and Forests here to look into some problems like CRZ problems about which I think the hon. Member from Andaman and Nicobar Islands also knows very well.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Gujarat has been the land of the brave, the saints and the national dignitaries. In Gujarat, there is Somnath temple, Jain temple and the temple of the God Swaminarayan. The birth place of the father of nation Mahatma Gandhi and the Iron man Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel is also in Gujarat. Moreover, the Kandla Port is in Gujarat. Many people come to Gujarat. The Government

of Gujarat have sent 15 schemes of tourism to the Centre out of which 12 schemes have been approved and 6 schemes sanctioned. I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you that by what time will these 6 schemes of the Government of Gujarat be given recognition? The Government have sanctioned only rupees 110 lacs for these schemes whereas it should have been more than this. The people of Gujarat always go on tour to all parts of India. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know through you that by when the Government is likely to complete the remaining schemes so that people of other states can also enjoy the tourist places of Gujarat.

[*English*]

SHRI OMAK APANG : The hon. Member's suggestion has been well taken. We will get back to him in due course. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : How can I accommodate all the hon. Members in one question? Please understand. You have to understand the difficulty of the Chair also. How can I accommodate all the hon. Members? There are many hon. Members who want to ask questions.

PROF. RITA VERMA : I want to ask a question concerning Tourism. Please give me an opportunity.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Please allow an Half-an-Hour Discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : Would you like to say anything, Mr. Minister?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : Tourism is a very big subject. ...(*Interruptions*) I thank the entire House for having evinced so much of interest in the development of Tourism in the country. We are the second biggest foreign exchange earner for the country, earning Rs.12,000 crore of foreign exchange.

It is amply clear right from the Leader of the Opposition of this House, from the Senior Member like Shri Balram Jakhar that everybody is evincing interest in tourism development.

Therefore, I myself request you to allocate time for an half-an-hour discussion so that we also will participate in this.

MR. SPEAKER : If the Government has no objection, we can have an half-an-hour discussion.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : Sir, I invite your attention to the question. He has made a general statement. The question is : projects allotted State-wise and project-wise. ...(*Interruptions*) . Sir, you kindly look into the question. We want your protection. ...(*Interruptions*). The Ministers are making general statements. ...(*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chacko, you can have a discussion State-wise with regard to tourism in the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : That is not the point. My point is that the answer is incomplete.

MR. SPEAKER : You can have a State-wise discussion about the tourism in the House in the half-an-hour discussion.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.C. CHACKO : My point is that this is a pointed question raised by the Member. He wanted a project-wise list. They can give a project-wise list. They have not given that ...(*Interruptions*). It is an incomplete reply.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, I am asking you, Can you send a State-wise project list to the hon. Members.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Yes, Sir. We can.

MR. SPEAKER : Then, we can have an half-an-hour discussion.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to give a notice.

MR. SPEAKER : During question hour, no notice can be given. This is not a zero hour

[*English*]

Diversion of EPF or Pension Fund to the Capital Market

*323. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state: