

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1082
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2003
ECO-TOURIST CIRCUIT
PATY RIPPLE KYNDIAH

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Shillong has been identified as one of the North-East's Eco-Tourist Circuits;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for its development?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a), (b) and (c) : Shillong is included in the North East Tourist Circuit designated as Eco-Tourism Circuit, which is as under:

Shillong-Guwahati-Kaziranga-Tezpur-Bhalakpong-Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh)-Majuli-Sibsagar-Kohima.

Following projects have been sanctioned during 2002-2003 for development of North East Circuit :-

Assam :

- (i) River Front Development along Brahmaputra.
- (ii) Development of Ethnic Village at Bhalakpong.
- (iii) Camping site at Khora.
- (iv) Signages.

Nagaland :

- (i) Green Village plan at Khonoma.

An amount of Rs.70.35 lakhs has been sanctioned to Government of Meghalaya for the following projects during 2002-2003 under the Scheme of Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development :-

1. Construction of suspension bridge over Weinia falls Sonkhai in Nongkhum.
2. Construction of 4 cottages in Nongkhum Island.
3. Construction of boathouse cafeteria and other facilities in Lumponding Island at Umiam.

The process of identifying the Infrastructure, Promotion and Publicity projects in the current year 2003-2004 has already been initiated in consultation with the State Governments including Government of Meghalaya.