

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3054
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006
MAJULI RIVER ISLAND
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

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

- (a) the expenditure incurred and the Central aid given for the protection and conservation of Majuli river Island in Assam during each of the last three years;
- (b) the allocation made therefor for the ensuing year;
- (c) the number of Indian and foreign tourists visited the Island during each of the last three years and the quantum of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the said period;
- (d) the extent of damage caused by way of erosion and floods during the last one year; and
- (e) the steps taken for conservation and development of the island?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e): Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/U.T. Administration. However, Department of Tourism, Government of India provides financial assistance for tourism related projects which are identified in consultation with the concerned State Governments. So far as, development of tourism at Majuli River Island is concerned, the Department of Tourism, Government of India sanctioned an amount of Rs.382.25 lakhs on 28.3.2003 for development of Heritage and Eco-Tourism Resort at Majuli. An amount of Rs.325.21 lakhs has been released by Department of Tourism, Government of India to the Assam Tourism Development Corporation for the purpose.

The number of Indian and foreign tourists who visited the Island during each of the last three years is indicated below:

| Year | Indian | Foreign |
|------|--------|---------|
|------|--------|---------|

| | | |
|------|-------|-----|
| 2003 | 92593 | 60 |
| 2004 | 58176 | 105 |
| 2005 | 32325 | 406 |