

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TOURISM  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1321

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2006

REALIZATION OF TOURISM POTENTIAL

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Singh Smt. Pratibha;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

**Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:**

- (a) Whether the Prime Minister has expressed concern over the under realization of country's tourism potential as reported in The Times of India dated September 24, 2006 ;
- (b) If so, the details thereof and the reasons for under realization of tourism potential ;
- (c) Whether the PM has set up a group of Ministers to tackle infrastructure issues ;
- (d) If so, the details thereof and the time by which this group is likely to start its functions ;
- (e) Whether the PM has also reviewed the on-going projects;
- (f) If so, the shortcoming noticed therein; and
- (g) The steps taken by the Government to rectify these shortcomings ?

**Answer**

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

(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) & (g): The Prime Minister reviewed the tourism sector on 21st September, 2006. Ministry of Tourism made a presentation giving an overview of its activities, opportunities that have been explored by the Ministry and constraints that held back the sector. The presentation highlighted the contribution tourism can make to substantially increasing GDP and employment if constraints are removed. It was recognized that tourism is essentially a multi-sectoral activity and requires action across several Ministries.

It has been decided that tourism will be included under the National Infrastructure Committee chaired by the Prime Minister. This Committee will review the progress of infrastructure components of the tourism sector.