

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3277
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2007
RENOVATION OF TEMPLES
Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any funds have been sanctioned/proposed to be sanctioned so far for the renovation/beautification of Vitthal Rakumai Temple located in district Solapur and the Shirdi Sainath Temple located in district Ahmadnagar in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring the above temples of Maharashtra on national tourism map with a view to attract more tourists; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): The Ministry of Tourism had sanctioned a project for integrated development of Pandharpur, Dehu and Alandi circuit for a total amount of Rs.684.73 lakh on 14.8.2003 which includes the development of Lord Vitthal temple at Pandharpur with the provision of construction of Darshan Mandap, toilets and other amenities. However, no project proposal for Shirdi Sainath temple at Ahmadnagar has been received in the Ministry of Tourism.

(c) and (d): Promotion of places of tourist interest including temples is a continuous process. Ministry of Tourism promotes the places of tourist interests/spots/temples through its Indiatourism offices located in India and overseas, as also in the electronic, print and online media through the "Incredible India" campaign.