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Title: Need to take steps for making Wayanad in Kerala a tourist destination of global standards.

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS (WAYANAD): Wayanad is a unique district in Kerala, with its diversity of wildlife and serene wildlife reserves and forests. The mainstay of Wayanad's economy is through agriculture which faces challenges of different kind and it's imperative to see the possibilities of providing additional avenues of employment for the populace. The rich repository of wildlife and forests in Wayanad present Wayanad with a unique opportunity to promote tourism in a significant manner as that would provide additional employment opportunities in direct and indirect manner.

However the concept of tourism in Wayanad district is still not taking shape as there is no tourism master plan by the State. The Central Government has a major role in turning around Wayanad as a tourism destination. The concept of archeological, wildlife adventure tourism offers great opportunities for the progress of Wayanad and the Central Government must initiate a tourism master plan as these archeological sites and wildlife reserves come under the Central Government. There must also be efforts from the Central Government to create an exclusive tourism corridor between Mysore and Ooty as these places fall in the vicinity of Wayanad so that more revenue from tourism can be generated.

I would request the Central Government to take necessary steps in making Wayanad a tourist destination of global standards and assist it earn a prominent space in world tourism map.