

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 847
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023

Eco-tourism as a key feature of forest conservation strategy

847. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government agrees with the fact that in order to exploit the multifaceted potential of eco-tourism it is essential to make eco-tourism a key feature of forest conservation strategy;
- (b) if so, the details of initiatives taken by Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) and (b) The National Wild Life Action Plan (2017-2031) acknowledges that eco-tourism has the potential to be a vital conservation tool as it helps win public support for wildlife conservation. The Action Plan envisages priority actions for management of eco tourism in wildlife areas.

Further, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has also released the 'Guidelines for sustainable eco tourism in forest and wildlife areas-2021' in October 2021. The guideline provides that the eco-tourism plan for the areas falling inside the notified forest/protected areas shall form part of duly approved Working Plan/Management Plan/ Working Scheme.

- (c) In view of the above, question does not arise.
