

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3448
ANSWERED ON 09.08.2021**

**DEVELOPMENT OF ECO-TOURISM PROJECTS IN ANDAMAN AND
NICOBAR AND LAKSHDWEEP**

3448. SHRI MANOJ KOTAK:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government allows 100 percent foreign direct investment in tourism development in the country;**
- (b) if so, the detail thereof;**
- (c) whether it is also true that Government has planned to develop eco-tourism projects in Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshdweep Islands under 100 percent FDI;**
- (d) if so, the detail thereof;**
- (e) whether the Government has plans to develop eco-tourism in Maharashtra and Mumbai area and if so, the detail thereof; and**
- (f) whether the Government has made any plan to develop an international-level infrastructure in Kargil (Ladakh) to promote adventure tourism and winter sports and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. 100% FDI is allowed in tourism construction projects, including development of hotels, restaurants and resorts. FDI is also permissible in tourism related travel and tour operating agencies and units providing facilities for cultural, adventure and wildlife experiences, leisure, entertainment, amusement, sports and health, convention /seminar units and organisations, under the automatic route , subject to applicable regulations and laws.

(c) & (d): Development and promotion of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations, including Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshdweep Islands. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has informed that four eco-tourism projects in Andaman & Nicobar Islands at Lalaji Bay Long Island, Smith Island, Aves Island and Shaheed Dweep and two projects in Lakshadweep at Kadmat and Suheli Islands, are planned to be developed under PPP mode. MHA has further informed that the island administrations have invited applications for RFQ in respect of these projects.

(e): The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance under the Swadesh Darshan scheme for development of tourism infrastructure in the country. The projects are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, submission of suitable Detailed Project Reports, adherence to scheme guidelines and utilization of funds released earlier. However, no project has been sanctioned to the State Govt. of Maharashtra under the Eco-Circuit theme.

(f): Development and promotion of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations, including Ladakh. However, the Ministry organized the National Events for Adventure Tourism (NEAT) in Kargil, in January 2021 for the promotion of Adventure Tourism and winter sports. The Ministry has also initiated the process of setting up a new branch office of the Indian Institute of Skiing and Mountaineering (IISM) in Kargil, Ladakh.
