## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CULTURE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2561 TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.3.2016 PHALGUNA 24, 1937 (SAKA)

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY FRANCE TO DEVELOP HERITAGE SITES

### 2561. SHRI HARISH MEENA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether France has expressed interest in developing heritage sites and tourism spots for the smart cities;
- (b) if so, the names of those States, including Rajasthan
- (c) whether France has committed investing over 2 billion euros for the scheme ; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

#### **ANSWER**

# MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) AND MINISTER OF STATE, CIVIL AVIATION

#### (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a)to(d) No financial assistance by France to develop heritage in smart cities has been proposed. However, recently French Agency for development (AFD) has executed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with States/UTs of Chandigarh, Puducherry and Maharashtra for development of Chandigarh, Oulgaret and Nagpur Municipal Corporations respectively under Smart cities Mission.

As per information from Ministry of Tourism(MoT), MoT has signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) with France on increasing cooperation in the tourism sector and to encourage promotion of tourism between the two countries.