

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.151
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024**

PROMOTION OF REGIONAL TOURISM

151 SHRI ANURAG SHARMA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to allow district-level authorities to permit the construction of minor pathways and small structures within forest areas by simplifying forest law to promote regional Tourism;**
- (b) if so the details of thereof; and**
- (c) if not the reasons therefore?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): As per the provisions of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, the prior approval of the Central Government is essential for using any forest land for any non-forest purpose. Therefore, any district level authority can not be allowed to permit the use of forest land for non-forestry purpose.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has launched an online portal namely PARIVESH (“Pro Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive and Virtuous Environmental Single window Hub”) for the purpose of submitting and processing proposals for the Forest, Wildlife and other Environmental clearances.

The Ministry of Tourism conducts detailed stakeholder consultations with various Ministries/Departments, including the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and state governments, to ensure the safeguarding of the eco-sensitivities of the area where projects are undertaken by the Ministry of Tourism.
