

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.412  
ANSWERED ON 24.06.2019**

**PROMOTION OF SPIRITUAL-CULTURAL-ECO TOURISM**

**412. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:**

**Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any statistics on the number of foreign tourists visited the country in the last financial year and forex earned through it;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the details of the actions taken by the Government to promote spiritual-cultural-eco tourism in the country;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to take any measure to promote cultural-spiritual-eco tourism putting a place like Thrissur as a centre, which is considered as the cultural capital of Kerala; and**
- (e) whether the Government has identified any potential sites for developing spiritual circuit tourism in Kerala and if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

**(a) and (b): The number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals and estimated Foreign Exchange Earnings during the financial year 2018-19 were 1,06,06,049 (provisional) and US \$ 27.776 billion respectively.**

**(c) to (e): Development and promotion of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Government/UT Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India promotes India as a holistic destination covering its various**

**tourism destinations and products across different States/Union Territories in the country. The Ministry as part of its on-going activities, annually releases print, electronic, online and outdoor media campaigns in the international and domestic markets, under the Incredible India brand-line, to promote various tourism destinations and products of various interests including those for spiritual, cultural and eco tourism.**

**For creation of tourism infrastructure in the country, the Ministry has two flagship schemes viz. Swadesh Darshan - Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits and PRASHAD- Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive. The projects including those for Spiritual circuit sanctioned under these schemes for the State of Kerala are given in the Annexure.**

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**ANNEXURE****STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.412 ANSWERED ON 24.06.2019 REGARDING PROMOTION OF SPIRITUAL-CULTURAL-ECO TOURISM****A. Projects sanctioned to the State of Kerala under Swadesh Darshan Scheme**

<b>Name of the Circuit/ Sanction year</b>	<b>Name of the Project</b>
<b>Eco Tourism Circuit 2015-16</b>	<b>Development in Pathanamthitta - Gavi - Vagamon - Thekkady</b>
<b>Spiritual Circuit 2016-17</b>	<b>Development in Sabarimala - Erumeli-Pampa-Sannidhanam</b>
<b>Spiritual Circuit 2016-17</b>	<b>Development in Sree Padmanabha Aranmula Sabarimala</b>
<b>Rural Circuit 2018-19</b>	<b>Development of: Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism</b>
<b>Spiritual Circuit 2018-19</b>	<b>Development Sivagiri Sree Narayana Guru Ashram- Arruvipuram- Kunnumpara Sree Subrahmania- Chembazhanthi Sree Narayana Gurukulam</b>
<b>Spiritual Circuit 2018-19</b>	<b>Development of Kasaragod, Wayanad, Kannur, Kozhikode, Palakkad, Malapuram, Thrichur, Ernakulam, Idukki, Kottayam, Allaphuza, Pathanamthitta, Kollam, Trivandrum</b>

**B. Projects sanctioned to the State of Kerala under PRASHAD Scheme**

<b>Year of Sanction</b>	<b>Name of the Project</b>
<b>2016-17</b>	<b>Development at Guruvayur Temple</b>

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