

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1176
ANSWERED ON 10.02.2020**

PROMOTION OF TOURISM *via* SWADESH DARSHAN SCHEME

1176. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made with respect to Swadesh Darshan Scheme;**
- (b) the circuit-wise details thereof;**
- (c) the total expenditure till now;**
- (d) whether the Government intends to take further measures to boost tourism in the country; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Ministry of Tourism under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme has sanctioned 77 projects for Rs.6035.70 Crores covering 30 States and Union Territories in the country. The details of the projects sanctioned circuit wise under the scheme is at annexure.

(d) & (e): Ministry of Tourism has taken several steps for boost of tourism in the country which inter-alia includes the following:

- Launched the Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD Schemes for development of tourism infrastructure in the country.**
- Identified 17 Iconic Sites in the country for development by seeking convergence with other Central Ministries/Departments/State Governments/Urban Local Bodies**
- Launched the 'Adopt a Heritage- Apni Dharohar Apni Pehchan' Project for development and maintenance of tourist amenities at heritage sites/monuments and other tourist sites.**

- **Development and promotion of ‘Niche Tourism’ products to attract tourist with specific interest and to ensure repeat visits for the unique products in which India has a comparative advantage.**
- **Launched 24x7 toll free Multi-Lingual Tourist Helpline.**
- **Promoting India as a holistic tourism destination including its various tourism sites and products through Incredible India 2.0 Campaign.**
- **Providing facility of e-Visa for 5 sub-categories i.e. e-Tourist visa, e-Business visa, e-Medical visa, e-Medical Attendant visa and e-Conference visa for nationals of 170 countries.**
- **E-Visa has been further liberalized and the visa fee has been substantially reduced.**
- **Revamp of Incredible India Website having information on tourism sites/destinations in different States/Union Territory Administrations.**
- **Launched Incredible India Tourist Facilitator Programme on an online digital platform to provide basic, advanced and refresher courses for tourist facilitators.**
- **New mountain peaks have been opened for Mountaineering/Trekking to give boost to adventure tourism in the country.**
- **Lowering of GST on hotels rooms with tariffs of Rs.1,001 to Rs.7,500/night to 12% and for Rs.7,501 & above to 18% to increase India’s competitiveness as a tourism destination.**

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1176 ANSWERED ON 10.02.2020 REGARDING PROMOTION OF TOURISM V/A SWADESH DARSHAN SCHEME.

THE DETAILS OF PROJECTS SANCTIONED CIRCUIT WISE UNDER SWADESH DARSHAN SCHEME:

(Rs.in crore)

Sr. No.	Name of the Theme	No. of projects	Amt. Sanctioned	Amt. Released
1	North-East Circuit	10	856.11	568.43
2	Buddhist Circuit	05	355.26	222
3	Himalayan Circuit	07	639.35	407.57
4	Coastal Circuit	10	767.31	494.14
5	Krishna Circuit	02	188.8	123.6
6	Desert Circuit	01	63.96	51.17
7	Tribal Circuit	04	379.91	302.28
8	Eco Circuit	06	490.5	328.07
9	Wildlife Circuit	02	187.89	150.32
10	Rural Circuit	02	125.02	21.24
11	Spiritual Circuit	14	862.98	405.07
12	Ramayana Circuit	02	202.76	154.77
13	Heritage Circuit	10	845.53	484.27
14	Tirthankar Circuit	01	52.39	26.19
15	Sufi Circuit	0	0.00	0.00
	Wayside	01	17.93	5.38
	TOTAL	77	6035.7	3744.5
