

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.320
ANSWERED ON 19.11.2019

RURAL TOURISM

320. DR. SANTANU SEN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that share of rural tourism is less than one per cent of total tourism economy;
- (b) the funds allocated in last three years, year-wise and State-wise for the development of rural tourism, if so, the details of growth, if any, in the rural tourism economy, year-wise in the last three years; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Tourism has launched the Swadesh Darshan Scheme for Integrated Development of theme-based Tourist Circuits for development of tourism infrastructure including last mile connectivity in the country. Recognising the potential of rural tourism in the country, the Ministry has identified Rural Circuit as one of the thematic circuits identified for development under this scheme and is aimed at leveraging tourism as a force multiplier for revitalizing the rural economy and for giving both domestic and international tourists a glimpse of the rural aspect of the country.

The Ministry has sanctioned following projects for development of Rural Circuits under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme which are under different stages of implementation:

(Rs. in Crore)			
Sl. No.	State / Year of Sanction	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned
1	Bihar 2017-18	Development of Bhitiharwa–Chandrahia – Turkaulia	44.65
2	Kerala 2018-19	Development of Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism	80.37

The objectives of the Swadesh Darshan scheme include creating employment through active involvement of local communities and promoting community-based development and pro-poor tourism approach.

Dis-segregated data of Rural Tourism as a part of total tourism earning is not being compiled by the Ministry.
