

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2090
ANSWERED ON 02.08.2021**

GUIDELINES FOR ECO-TOURISM IN FOREST AND WILDLIFE AREAS

**2090. SHRI GNANATHIRAVIAM S.:
SHRI BHAGWANT MANN:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently approved new guidelines for eco-tourism in forest and wildlife areas;**
- (b) if so, the details along with its features thereof;**
- (c) whether any steps are being taken to ease norms for eco-tourism to facilitate opportunities in notified forest and wildlife reserves;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (e): Eco tourism has been identified as one of the Niche Tourism areas for development in the country by the Ministry of Tourism.

Ministry of Tourism has recognized the immense potential of sustainable tourism in becoming a source of sustainable livelihoods and achieving the SDGs. The Ministry of Tourism has accordingly formulated a Draft National Strategy and Roadmap for Sustainable Tourism with focus on ecotourism. In order to make the document more comprehensive, Ministry of Tourism has invited feedback/ comments/ suggestions on the draft National Strategy and Roadmap from identified Central Ministries, all the State Governments/ UT Administrations and industry stakeholders.

Ministry of Tourism, under its Swadesh Darshan scheme, is developing theme based tourism circuits in the country. Eco Circuit and Wildlife Circuit are among the fifteen thematic circuits identified for development under the scheme. The objective of the Swadesh Darshan scheme include creating employment through active involvement of local communities and promoting community-based development and pro-poor tourism approach. Submission of project proposals by the State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme is a continuous process. The projects for development under the scheme are identified in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations and are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, submission of suitable detailed project reports, adherence to scheme guidelines and utilization of funds released earlier.

The details of the projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism under the Eco Circuit and Wildlife Circuit themes of Swadesh Darshan Scheme are given at Annexure.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2090 ANSWERED ON 02.08.2021 REGARDING GUIDELINES FOR ECO-TOURISM IN FOREST AND WILDLIFE AREAS**

List of Projects sanctioned for development under Eco Circuit and Wildlife Circuit themes of Swadesh Darshan Scheme of Ministry of Tourism

(in Rs. Crores)

State/Year of Sanction	Details	Amount Sanctioned
Eco Circuits		
Uttarakhand (2015-16)	Development of Circuit at Tehri- Chamba-Sarain around Tehri Lake.	69.17
Telangana (2015-16)	Development of Circuit in Mahaboobnagar district (Somasila, Singotam, Kadalaivanam, Akkamahadevi, Egalanpanta, Farahabad, Uma Maheshwaram, Mallelatheertham)	91.62
Kerala (2015-16)	Development of Pathanamthitta- Gavi-Vagamon-Thekkady	76.55
Mizoram (2016-17)	Development of Eco-Adventure Circuit at Aizawl-Rawpuichhip- Khawhphawp-Lengpui- Durtlang Chatlang-Sakawrhmutitaitlang- Muthee-Beratlawng-Tuirial Airfield- Hmuifang	66.37
Madhya Pradesh (2017-18)	Development of Gandhisagar Dam- Mandleshwar Dam- Omkareshwar Dam- Indira Sagar Dam- Tawa Dam-Bargi Dam- Bheda Ghat- Bansagar Dam- Ken River.	94.61
Jharkhand (2018-19)	Development of Dalma- Chandil- Getalsud- Betla National park- Mirchaiya- Netarhat	52.72
Wildlife Circuits		
Madhya Pradesh (2015-16)	Development of Circuit at Panna- Mukundpur- Sanjay- Dubri- Bandhavgarh- Kanha- Mukki- Pench.	92.22
Assam (2015-16)	Development of Manas- Pobitora- Nameri- Kaziranga- Dibru- Saikhowa.	94.68
