

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.108  
ANSWERED ON 29.11.2021**

**PLAN TO EXPAND RURAL TOURISM CIRCUITS IN GUJARAT**

**108. SHRIMATI POONAMBEN MAADAM:**

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

- (a) whether there is any programme/scheme to explore scope for developing rural tourism in the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof.**
- (c) the State-wise/Union Territory-wise number of districts and villages which have been identified and developed as rural tourist spots during the last three years;**
- (d) whether the Government is planning to expand rural tourism circuits in Gujarat; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF TOURISM(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

**(a) to (c): Recognising the potential of rural tourism in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has identified Rural Circuit as one of the fifteen thematic circuits for development under the SwadeshDarshan scheme and is aimed at leveraging tourism as a force multiple for revitalizing the rural economy and for giving both domestic and international tourists a glimpse of rural aspect of the country.**

**The projects for development of tourism related infrastructure including rural tourism/ proposal are identified for development under the circuit 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.**

Based on the above criteria, Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned the following projects under the Rural Circuit theme of SwadeshDarshan Scheme in the country: -

(Rupees in crore)

S. No.	Name of State	Name of Circuit & Year	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	Bihar	Rural Circuit (2017-18)	Development of Gandhi Circuit: Bhitiharwa-Chandrahia- Turkaulia	44.65	35.72
2.	Kerala	Rural Circuit (2018-19)	Development of Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism Project	80.37	23.77
			Total	125.02	59.49

Ministry of Tourism has also formulated a Draft National Strategy and Roadmap for Rural Tourism. The Strategy document aims at prioritization of rural tourism at national level.

Apart from the above, Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) has informed that under their scheme of Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rural Mission (SPMRM), twenty-one components have been suggested as desirable for the Cluster development. Tourism Promotion is one of the twenty-one components. The State/UT wise list of the clusters wherein components related to tourism have been taken up along with funds allocated is placed at Annexure.

(d) & (e): Ministry of Tourism has not sanctioned any project in Rural Circuit under SwadeshDarshan scheme in Gujarat. However, Ministry of Rural Development has informed that under SPMRM, five clusters in Gujarat have been taken up wherein components related to tourism have been included. The State/UT wise list of these clusters under SPMRM is given at Annexure which includes these five clusters in Gujarat also.

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**ANNEXURE**

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION  
NO. 108 ANSWERED ON 29.11.2021 REGARDING PLAN TO EXPAND  
RURAL TOURISM CIRCUITS IN GUJARAT**

**LIST OF TOURISM PROJECTS UNDER SPMRM**

(Rupees in crore)

S. No	State Name	Name of the District	Cluster Name	Sub Component	Critical Gap Funding (CGF)	Convergence funds	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	West Godavari	Eluru	Tourist Lodge	3.04	8.00	11.04
2	Assam	Kamrup	Hajo	Pilgrimage Development for Tourism	3.35	2.85	6.20
3	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	South Andaman	Ferrargunj	Agri Tourism	0.00	2.70	2.70
				Beautification of Tourism Sites	6.96	0.00	6.96
				Construction of Tourism Parks	4.50	0.80	5.30
				Nature Trail	1.14	0.00	1.14
				Public Convenience Cum Cafeteria near tourist sites	4.30	0.00	4.30
				RAILING or Floating jetty or Wooden jetty	1.10	0.30	1.40
				Revamping Historical Sites	1.44	10.76	12.20
				Riverfront Development for tourism	1.20	0.00	1.20
				Shops or Market around Tourist Places	0.00	0.23	0.23
				Walk Way along tourism sites	0.00	0.65	0.65
4	Bihar	Gaya	Nauranga	Beautification of Tourism Sites	0.00	11.33	11.33