

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2545
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022

SCHEME FOR PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS TOURISM

2545. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA:

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

- (a) whether Government is currently running schemes to provide funding for religious tourism and whether the outlay has been shared with the State Governments;
- (b) the status of 24 projects across 15 States approved under the Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spirituality Augmentation Drive (PRASAD);
- (c) whether the work for developing tourist infrastructure on the 15 tourist circuits identified under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme has been completed and the total outlay; and
- (d) the estimate of jobs generated by such investments in the tourism sector in the country during the last five years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): Sir, Development and maintenance of pilgrimage/religious tourism destination primarily is the responsibility of the respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism under its “PRASHAD” and “Swadesh Darshan” Schemes also provides the Central Financial Assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for development of Tourism infrastructure facilities at the pre-identified religious destinations, based on the proposals received from the respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations as in line with the schemes guidelines.

(b): List of the 39 projects approved in 24 States under PRASHAD Scheme is at Annexure-I.

(c): At present a total of 76 projects have been sanctioned under “Swadesh Darshan” Scheme with the cost of Rupees 5507.40 Cr. Details are available at annexure-II. The projects are at different stages of execution.

(d): Ministry of Tourism has not undertaken any study to access the details of the total number of people directly employed in projects being developed under the scheme. However, a third party impact assessments of ‘Swadesh Darshan’ scheme was undertaken by National Productivity Council (NPC) in July, 2019 which states that ‘Swadesh Darshan scheme’ has been able to give a fillip to livelihood opportunities and create employment for the local communities in construction phase. Under the “PRASHAD Scheme”, the provision of collection of employment data is a one-time activity which is provided by the respective States during the time of project closure and submission of the closure documents. There is no primary data collection done by the Ministry. The secondary data submitted by the respected State Governments since 2015 regarding employment generation under PRASHAD scheme available with the Ministry is at annexure-III.

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2545 ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022 REGARDING SCHEME FOR PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS TOURISM.

STATUS OF THE PROJECTS APPROVED UNDER PRASHAD SCHEME

Sr. No.	State/UTs	Project Nos.	Name of the Project	Year of Sanction	Approved Cost (Rs. in Crore)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.	Development of Amaravati Town, Guntur District as a Tourist Destination**	2015-16	27.77
		2.	Development of Srisailam Temple**	2017-18	43.08
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.	Development of Parasuram Kund, Lohit Distt.	2020-21	37.88
3.	Assam	4.	Development of Kamakhya Temple and Pilgrimage Destination in and around Guwahati**	2015-16	29.80
4.	Bihar	5.	Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple, Gaya, Bihar**	2014-15	4.27
		6.	Development at Patna Sahib**	2015-16	41.54
5.	Chhattisgarh	7.	Development of Maa Bamleshwari Devi Temple, Rajnandgaon, Dongargarh, Chhattisgarh	2020-21	43.33
6.	Gujarat	8.	Development of Dwarka**	2016-17	13.08
		9.	Pilgrimage Amenities at Somnath**	2016-17	45.36
		10.	Development of Promenade at Somnath under PRASHAD Scheme**	2018-19	47.12
		11.	Development of Pilgrim Plaza with Queue Management Complex at Somnath Gujarat	2021-22	49.97
7.	Haryana	12.	Development of Nada Saheb Gurudwara and Mata Mansha Devi Temple in Panchkula District	2019-20	49.52
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	13.	Development at Hazratbal,	2016-17	40.46
9.	Jharkhand	14.	Development of Baidyanathji Dham, Deoghar	2018-19	39.13
10.	Kerala	15.	Development at Guruvayur Temple**	2016-17	46.14
11.	Madhya Pradesh	16.	Development of Omkareshwar	2017-18	44.83
		17.	Development of Amarkantak	2020-21	49.99
12.	Maharashtra	18.	Development of Trimbakeshwar	2017-18	37.81
13.	Meghalaya	19.	Development of Pilgrimage Facilitation in Meghalaya	2020-21	29.32
14.	Nagaland	20.	Development of Pilgrimage Infrastructure in Nagaland	2018-19	25.26
15.	Odisha	21.	Infrastructure Development at Puri,	2014-15	50.00

			Shree Jagannath Dham – Ramachandi - Prachi River front at Deuli under Mega Circuit		
16.	Punjab	22.	Development of KarunaSagar Valmiki Sthal at Amritsar **	2015-16	6.40
		23.	Development of Chamkaur Sahib at Rupar, Punjab under PRASHAD Scheme	2021-22	31.57
17.	Rajasthan	24.	Integrated Development of Pushkar/Ajmer	2015-16	32.64
18.	Sikkim	25.	Development of Pilgrimage Facilitation at Four Patron Saints, Yuksom	2020-21	33.32
19.	Tamilnadu	26.	Development of Kanchipuram**	2016-17	13.99
		27.	Development of Vellankani**	2016-17	4.86
20.	Telangana	28.	Development of Jogulamba Devi Temple, Alampur	2020-21	36.73
21.	Tripura	29.	Development of Tripura Sundari Temple, Udaipur	2020-21	37.84
22.	Uttarakhand	30.	Integrated Development of Kedarnath**	2015-16	34.77
		31.	Development of Infrastructure for Pilgrimage Facilitation in Badrinath Ji Dham (Uttarakhand) under PRASHAD Scheme	2018-19	39.24
		32.	Augmentation of Pilgrimage Infrastructure Facilities and Gangotri and Yamunotri Dham in Uttarakhand under PRASHAD Scheme	2021-22	54.36
23.	Uttar Pradesh	33.	Development of Mathura-Vrindavan as Mega Tourist Circuit (Ph-II)**	2014-15	14.93
		34.	Construction of Tourist Facilitation Centre at Vrindavan, Distt. Mathura**	2014-15	9.36
		35.	Development of Varanasi –Phase – I**	2015-16	20.40
		36.	Cruise Tourism in River Ganga, Varanasi	2017-18	10.72
		37.	Development of Varanasi Under Prashad Scheme – Phase II	2017-18	44.60
		38.	Development of Infrastructure facilities at Govardhan, Mathura, UP	2018-19	39.74
24.	West Bengal	39.	Development of Belur	2016-17	30.03
			Total		1291.16

** Physical execution of the project completed

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2545 ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022 REGARDING SCHEME FOR PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS TOURISM

Circuit wise list of projects 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	836.30	669.77
2.	Buddhist Circuit	05	323.54	283.31
3.	Himalayan Circuit	07	603.04	460.59
4.	Coastal Circuit	10	631.4	590.57
5.	Krishna Circuit	02	173.15	138.52
6.	Desert Circuit	01	50.01	51.17
7.	Tribal Circuit	04	371.47	346.42
8.	Eco Circuit	06	451.04	358.29
9.	Wildlife Circuit	02	186.9	171.09
10.	Rural Circuit	02	125.02	59.49
11.	Spiritual Circuit	13	750.13	499.11
12.	Ramayana Circuit	02	196.66	179.55
13.	Heritage Circuit	10	756.48	619.96
14.	Tirthankar Circuit	01	37.19	26.19
15.	Sufi Circuit	0	0.00	0.00
16.	Wayside	01	15.07	12.29
	TOTAL	76	5507.40	4466.32

ANNEXURE-III

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2545 ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022 REGARDING SCHEME FOR PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS TOURISM

PRASHAD Employment Generation Data

S. No.	PROJECT NAME	EMPLOYMENT GENERATION (MAN DAYS)	
		INDIRECT	DIRECT
1	Development of Vellankini, Tamil Nadu	37896	2365
2	Development of Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu	80244	5985
3	Development of Mathura TFC, UP	65652	15450
4	Development of Karuna Sagar Valmiki Tirath Sthal at Amritsar	18480	730
5	Development of Pilgrimage Amenities at Somnath, Gujarat	245800	11640
6	Development of Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh	194160	27500
7	Development of Mathura-Vrindavan as Mega Tourist Circuit (Ph-II)	97863	271
8	Development of Kamakhya Temple and Pilgrimage Destination in and around Guwahati, Assam	47200	0
9	Development of Dwarka, Gujarat	294	38
10	Integrated Development of Pushkar/Ajmer, Rajasthan	4995	0
11	Development of Promenade at Somnath under PRASHAD Scheme	203400	10950
12	Srisailam	194170	27500
13	Gaya	0	25585
14	Development at Guruvayur Temple, Kerala	167239	22995
	Total	1357393	151009
