

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5120
ANSWERED ON 04.04.2022**

CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN TOURIST PLACES

5120. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government agrees with the view that good connectivity between tourist places and main cities, towns and villages by way of improved railways, road transport will go a long way in boosting our tourism industry and generating employment for the youth and local people;**
- (b) if so, the initiatives taken/being taken by the Government in this connection; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): Yes, Sir. Good connectivity between tourist places and main cities, towns and villages by way of improved railways, road transport will go a long way in boosting our tourism industry and generating employment for the youth and local people, make them more accessible and provide a better tourism experience to the tourists visiting those sites.

(b) & (c): Following steps have been taken to improve the connectivity to the tourist destinations located in different parts of the country: -

- 1. Ministry of Tourism had shared a list of 50 Tourism destinations including Iconic Sites and UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the first phase and subsequently of 114 routes in the Second phase with Ministry of Road Transport &**

Highways, State Government and Border Road organization for improving road connectivity.

- 2. Last Mile connectivity is one of the admissible component of the Swadesh Darshan scheme. The sanctioned projects under the Swadesh Darshan scheme involves various components such as Tourist Facilitation center, lighting, beautification, log huts, Last Mile Connectivity, etc.**
- 3. Ministry of Tourism under the Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD Schemes is providing last mile connectivity to the tourist destinations/sites.**
- 4. Ministry of Tourism is coordinating with the concerned line Ministries and also implementing projects for providing a better connectivity to the tourist destinations within the country through the following mechanism:-**
 - (i) Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee for Tourism Sector (IMCCTS) to facilitate resolution of Inter-Ministerial/Departmental issues involving the development of tourism and better connectivity to tourist destinations within the country.**
 - (ii) A Task Force has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Tourism), Govt. of India to address various issues related to tourism as per the recommendations of the Sectoral Groups of Secretaries (SGoS) for Tourism Sectoral Plan. The Task Force comprises representatives from the Ministries of Civil Aviation, External Affairs, Home Affairs, Railways, Road Transport & Highways, Culture, DONER, Environment & Forests and IRCTC, ASI.**
