

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION.209
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2022

**CENTRAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO REVIVE STATE TOURISM
CORPORATIONS**

209 SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR:

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

- (a) whether it is fact that tourism industry in the country including various State tourism departments/corporations has been majorly affected during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, whether Government has any proposals including special schemes and central financial assistance to support and revive the State tourism corporations;
- (c) if so, by when this central financial assistance will be disbursed to the State tourism departments; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.209 ANSWERED ON 04.08.2022 REGARDING CENTRAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO REVIVE STATE TOURISM CORPORATIONS.

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. It is a fact that the tourism industry in the country has been majorly affected during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Government of India has announced various fiscal and non-fiscal relief measures which are expected to assist the tourism industry to come out of the crisis. The measures are detailed at Annexure I.

The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance under the schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan' and 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' for development of tourism infrastructure in the country further to submission of complete project proposals by the State Governments/Union Territories. This is a continuous process and the projects 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 proposals sanctioned and funds released under these schemes to various State Governments/ Union Territories, are given at Annexure II.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.209 ANSWERED ON 04.08.2022 REGARDING CENTRAL FINANCE ASSISTANCE TO REVIVE STATE TOURISM CORPORATIONS.

The following are the various fiscal relief measures announced by the Government for redeveloping post-covid tourism sector of the country:

- i. The Government announced Atmanirbhar Bharat Package vide which Rs.3.00 lakh crore collateral free automatic loan was made available for MSMEs. The loan will have 4- year tenure and 12-month moratorium.
- ii. Under Atmanirbhar Bharat package, PF contribution of both employer and employee was reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for three months.
- iii. Return filing deferred for three months with no penal interest for companies up to Rs.5.00 Crore, rest @ 9% penal interest.
- iv. The Government waived off PF contribution for three months for organisations with less than 100 pax and 90% of their employees earn below Rs.15000.
- v. Deferment of TCS up to October 2020.
- vi. The Central government also gave relief from various regulatory compliances under Income Tax Act, companies Act and GST Act for varying period in the wake of COVID-19 crisis to ensure business continuity and survival.
- vii. The Government announced the Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) 3.0 on 31.3.2021 to support eligible Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and business enterprises in meeting their operational liabilities and restarting their business. The scope of the scheme was enlarged to cover business enterprises in Hospitality, Travel & Tourism and Leisure & Sporting sectors. Provision of additional corpus of Rs. 50,000 crores has also been made for hospitality sector. The validity of ECLGS (ECLGS 1.0, ECLGS 2.0 & ECLGS 3.0) has been extended till 31.03.2023 or till guarantees for an amount of Rs. 5.00 lakh crores are issued.
- viii. Ministry of Finance has given concurrence to release Service Exports from India Scheme (SEIS) scrips on 16.06.2021. Earlier, several Industry stakeholders had flagged appeals to the Government to release SEIS Scrips for 2019-20 and DGFT had put a detailed proposal for the allocation for SEIS for exports made during 2019-20. Taking all circumstances into account, the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance has given concurrence to the proposal of Department of Commerce for continuation of SEIS for 2019-20 with a financial allocation of Rs.2061 crore subject to the condition that the amount will be provided through Expenditure Budget following the procedure of providing a New Minor Head.
- ix. On 28th June 2021, the Government announced a stimulus package to boost diverse sectors of economy affected by COVID-19 pandemic and provide impetus for growth and employment measures. The package comprises a total of 17 measures in three broad categories, which included 'Economic relief from Pandemic, with special focus on health and reviving travel and tourism sectors' and 'Impetus for Growth and employment'.
- x. Ministry of Tourism launched 'Loan Guarantee Scheme for Covid Affected Tourism Service Sector (LGSCATSS)', which aims at extending collateral free loan to the distressed tourism sector to help them discharge their liabilities and restart their business affected due to Covid-19 pandemic under this scheme, collateral free Loan upto Rs.10.00 lakh each may be availed by MoT approved Tour operator/Travel Agents/Tourist Transport Operators and upto Rs.1.00 lakh each may be availed by RLGs/IITGs approved by MoT and Tourist Guides approved by State Government/UT Administration. The scheme is already operational through 18 Scheduled Commercial Banks. Validity of the

scheme has been extended by one more year i.e. till 31st March, 2023 or till the guarantee of Rs. 250.00 crores are issued under the scheme.

- xi. With a view to prepare for a post-COVID 19 revival, the Ministry has formulated and issued detailed operational guidelines for Covid safety and hygiene for hotels, restaurants, B&Bs/Homestays and Tourism Service Providers on 08.06.2020 to facilitate smooth resumption of business.
- xii. An initiative called SAATHI (System for Assessment, Awareness & Training for Hospitality Industry) has been developed for effective implementation of Guidelines/SOPs issued with reference to COVID-19 and beyond for safe operations of Hotels, restaurants, B&Bs and other units.
- xiii. Validity of approval or certification of hotels and other accommodation units whose project approval/re-approval and classification/re-classification have expired/were likely to expire was extended up to 31st March 2022.
- xiv. With an aim to incentivize stakeholders in the Tourism industry, the Guidelines for the scheme of Market Development Assistance (MDA) for providing financial support to stakeholders for the promotion of Domestic Tourism have been modified to enhance the scope and reach of the scheme, so as to provide maximum benefits to the stakeholders. Additional promotional activities have been incorporated including online promotions and the extent of financial assistance permissible has been enhanced. The Guidelines of the Marketing Development Assistance Programme under the Overseas Promotion and Publicity Scheme has been modified to enhance the scope and reach of the scheme, so as to provide maximum benefits to the stakeholders in the tourism industry.
- xv. For the purpose of restarting inbound tourism and attracting foreign tourists in the country, Government of India extended first 5 lakh visas to the foreign tourists from potential tourism markets, free of cost. The benefit of free of charge visa will be available only once per tourist during the issuance of the first 5 lakh tourist visas.
- xvi. Owing to the situation which arose out of COVID- 19 pandemic, Ministry of Tourism in consultation with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare issues guidelines/directions to the Tourism Stakeholders, Hotels and Restaurants to facilitate smooth resumption of business.
- xvii. Ministry of Home Affairs restored e-Tourist Visa for foreign nationals of 156 countries w.e.f. 15th March, 2022. Also, after having recognized the increased vaccination coverage across the globe and in consultation with the stakeholders, the Government of India resumed scheduled commercial international passenger services to/from India w.e.f. 27th March, 2022.

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.209 ANSWERED ON 04.08.2022 REGARDING CENTRAL FINANCE ASSISTANCE TO REVIVE STATE TOURISM CORPORATIONS.

SWADESH DARSHAN SCHEME

State wise details of projects sanctioned under the scheme:

(Rs. in crore)

S. No.	State/UTs	Swadesh Darshan			Amount Utilised
		No. of Projects	Amt. Sanctioned	Amount released	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	141.53	141.77	134.63
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	146.49	139.16	124.05
3.	Assam	2	185.66	176.36	157.68
4.	Bihar	5	266.9	238.5	220.06
5.	Chhattisgarh	1	96.10	84.81	84.81
6.	Goa	2	197.00	187.14	187.14
7.	Gujarat	3	176.22	165.74	153.22
8.	Haryana	1	70.91	77.88	69.53
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	77.43	64.55	60.80
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	520.35	430.48	360.14
11.	Jharkhand	1	34.12	26.37	15.01
12.	Karnataka	0	0	0	0
13.	Kerala	5	410.89	182.66	143.58
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4	350.55	324.14	316.9
15.	Maharashtra	2	66.59	42.11	38.49
16.	Manipur	2	117.56	104.36	104.16
17.	Meghalaya	2	184.1	145.12	129.68
18.	Mizoram	2	158.63	137.18	137.18
19.	Nagaland	2	195.5	185.73	176.81
20.	Odisha	1	70.82	63.56	52.95
21.	Punjab	1	90.05	61.89	42.15
22.	Rajasthan	4	283.47	246.27	241.13
23.	Sikkim	2	193.37	177.95	177.73
24.	Tamil Nadu	1	73.13	69.48	68.59
25.	Telangana	3	268.39	233.53	191.65
26.	Tripura	2	133.23	81.97	74.86
27.	Uttar Pradesh	8	485.73	439.08	383.72
28.	Uttarakhand	2	145.49	133.33	133.33
29.	West Bengal	1	67.99	68.31	64.96
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	27.57	20.89	12.29
31.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0
33.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0
34.	Delhi	0	0	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	3	148.31	136.69	126.45

37.	Wayside Amenities (Uttar Pradesh and Bihar)	1	15.07	12.29	12.29
Total		76	5399.15	4599.3	4195.97

PRASHAD SCHEME

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Project Nos.	Name of the Project	Year of Sanction	Approved cost	Amount Released
List of ongoing projects						
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.	Development of Amaravati Town, Guntur District as a Tourist Destination**	2015-16	27.77	27.77
		2.	Development of Srisailem Temple**	2017-18	43.08	43.08
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.	Development of Parasuram Kund, Lohit Distt.	2020-21	37.88	7.34
3.	Assam	4.	Development of Kamakhya Temple and Pilgrimage Destination in and around Guwahati**	2015-16	29.80	29.80
4.	Bihar	5.	Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple, Gaya, Bihar**	2014-15	4.27	2.91
		6.	Development at Patna Sahib**	2015-16	41.54	33.23
5.	Chhattisgarh	7.	Development of Maa Bamleshwari Devi Temple, Rajnandgaon, Dongargarh, Chhattisgarh	2020-21	43.33	21.45
6.	Gujarat	8.	Development of Dwarka**	2016-17	13.08	10.46
		9.	Pilgrimage Amenities at Somnath**	2016-17	45.36	45.36
		10.	Development of Promenade at Somnath under PRASHAD Scheme**	2018-19	47.12	44.76
		11.	Development of Pilgrim Plaza with Queue Management Complex at Somnath Gujarat	2021-22	49.97	Adm. Appl only 10.03.22
7.	Haryana	12.	Development of Nada Saheb Gurudwara and Mata Mansha Devi Temple in Panchkula District	2019-20	49.52	28.77
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	13.	Development at Hazratbal,	2016-17	40.46	32.37
9.	Jharkhand	14.	Development of Baidyanathji Dham, Deoghar	2018-19	39.13	31.23

10.	Kerala	15.	Development at Guruvayur Temple**	2016-17	46.14	36.91
11.	Madhya Pradesh	16.	Development of Omkareshwar	2017-18	44.83	35.87
		17.	Development of Amarkantak	2020-21	49.99	4.86
12.	Maharashtra	18.	Development of Trimbakeshwar	2017-18	52.92	24.23
13.	Meghalaya	19.	Development of Pilgrimage Facilitation in Meghalaya	2020-21	29.32	8.80
14.	Nagaland	20.	Development of Pilgrimage Infrastructure in Nagaland	2018-19	25.26	20.06
15.	Odisha	21.	Infrastructure Development at Puri, Shree Jagannath Dham – Ramachandi - Prachi River front at Deuli under Mega Circuit	2014-15	50.00	10.00
16.	Punjab	22.	Development of KarunaSagar Valmiki Sthal at Amritsar **	2015-16	6.40	6.40
		23.	Development of Chamkaur Sahib at Rupar, Punjab under PRASHAD Scheme	2021-22	31.57	Adm. Appl only 10.03.22
17.	Rajasthan	24.	Integrated Development of Pushkar/Ajmer	2015-16	32.64	26.11
18.	Sikkim	25.	Development of Pilgrimage Facilitation at Four Patron Saints, Yuksom	2020-21	33.32	18.50
19.	Tamilnadu	26.	Development of Kanchipuram**	2016-17	13.99	13.99
		27.	Development of Vellankani**	2016-17	4.86	4.86
20.	Telangana	28.	Development of Jogulamba Devi Temple, Alampur	2020-21	36.73	10.27
21.	Tripura	29.	Development of Tripura Sundari Temple, Udaipur	2020-21	37.80	18.42
22.	Uttarakhand	30.	Integrated Development of Kedarnath**	2015-16	34.77	34.77
		31.	Development of Infrastructure for Pilgrimage Facilitation in Badrinath Ji Dham (Uttarakhand) under PRASHAD Scheme	2018-19	56.13	20.79
		32.	Augmentation of Pilgrimage Infrastructure Facilities and Gangotri	2021-22	54.36	14.06

			and Yamunotri Dham in Uttarakhand under PRASHAD Scheme			
23.	Uttar Pradesh	33.	Development of Mathura-Vrindavan as Mega Tourist Circuit (Ph-II)**	2014-15	14.93	10.38
		34.	Construction of Tourist Facilitation Centre at Vrindavan, Distt. Mathura**	2014-15	9.36	9.36
		35.	Development of Varanasi –Phase –I**	2015-16	20.40	16.32
		36.	Cruise Tourism in River Ganga, Varanasi	2017-18	10.72	8.57
		37.	Development of Varanasi Under Prashad Scheme – Phase II	2017-18	44.60	31.77
		38.	Development of Infrastructure facilities at Govardhan, Mathura, UP	2018-19	39.74	30.97
24.	West Bengal	39.	Development of Belur	2016-17	30.03	23.39
			Total		1323.16	798.19

** Physical execution of the project completed
