

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 22
ANSWERED ON 08.12.2022

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS FOR CHAR DHAM YATRA

22. SHRI DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK:

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

- (a) the number of pilgrims who performed Char Dham Yatra this year;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government has started a large number of infrastructure projects for pilgrims of Char Dham Yatra;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time line for completion of these projects?

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. 22 ANSWERED ON 08.12.2022 REGARDING INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS FOR CHAR DHAM YATRA

(a): As per the information received from State/UT Tourism Department, the details of pilgrims visited to Char Dhams this year as given below:

Sr. No.	Dhams	Pilgrims Visited (2022)
1.	Badrinath ji Dham, Uttarakhand	17.52 Lakh (upto Closure of Temple in November)
2.	Dwarka (Dwarkadheesh), Gujarat	50.26 Lakh in Financial Year 2022-23(upto November)
3.	Puri (Shri Jagannath Dham), Odisha	107.29 Lakh (upto September)
4.	Rameshwaram, Tamil Nadu	48.37 Lakh (upto October)

Source: State/UT Tourism Department

(b) to (d): Development of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to the States/UTs under the 'Swadesh Darshan' & 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' Schemes for the development of tourism related infrastructure and facilities to provide an enriching tourism experience to visitors in the country including Char Dhams.

All Char Dham destinations being of National level importance and imperative in pilgrimage landscape of India. Ministry of Tourism under its 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' Scheme has sanctioned projects at Badrinath in Uttarakhand, Dwarka in Gujarat and Puri in Odisha.

The details of the project sanctioned are given below:

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Year of Sanction	Sanctioned Project Cost	Project Completion
Badrinath ji Dham, Uttarakhand				
1	Development of Infrastructure for Pilgrimage Facilitation in Badrinath Ji Dham (Uttarakhand)	2018-19	56.13	Project is at advanced stage of completion.
Dwarka (Dwarkadheesh), Gujarat				
1	Development of Dwarka	2016-17	13.08	Feb. 2021
Puri (Shri Jagannath Dham), Odisha				
1	Infrastructure Development at Puri, Shree Jagannath Dham – Ramachandi - Prachi River front at Deuli under Mega Circuit	2014-15	50.00	June. 2021

Further, Ministry of Tourism under its 'Swadesh Darshan' scheme sanctioned a coastal circuit theme project in the state of Tamil Nadu including Rameshwaram. The details of the project are given below:

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Year of Sanction	Sanctioned Project Cost	Project Completion
Rameshwaram, Tamil Nadu				
1	Development of (Chennai-Mamamallapuram – Rameshwaram – Manpadu – Kanyakumari)	2016-17	73.13	Project is physically completed
