

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO.89**  
ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023

**PRASHAD SCHEME IN PUNJAB**

89 SHRI RAGHAV CHADHA:

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

- (a) the number of Sikh pilgrimage sites in the country included in the tourism list, particularly the sites in the State of Punjab;
- (b) whether Government has made any efforts to co-ordinate with the State Government of Punjab to identify new pilgrimage sites so as to include a few of them in its 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation And Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive' (PRASHAD Scheme) and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to provide a special package for promoting tourism activities at Sikh pilgrimage sites across the country, and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

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**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.89 ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023 REGARDING PRASHAD SCHEME IN PUNJAB**

(a): Declaration of any destination as “tourist place” does not come under work allocation of the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.

(b): As a continuous process, under PRASHAD Scheme of the Ministry of Tourism, destinations are identified and projects are approved as per the projects proposals received from the respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in line with the Guidelines of the scheme. On the basis of the requests received from the State Government of Punjab, Karuna Sagar Valmiki Sthal at Amritsar and Chamkaur Sahib of Ropar (Rupnagar) have been included in the Scheme for development of pilgrimage tourism infrastructure. Status of the projects approved for the State under the Scheme, is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Year of Sanction	₹ in Cr.		Status
			Cost	Release	
1	Development of KarunaSagar Valmiki Sthal at Amritsar	2015-16	6.40	6.40	Complete
2	Development of Chamkaur Sahib at Ropar, Punjab under PRASHAD Scheme	2021-22	31.57	7.26	Under Progress

(c): Ministry of Tourism promotes India in a holistic manner, including the religious places of Punjab, through various initiatives under its schemes viz. Domestic Promotion and Publicity including Hospitality (DPPH) and Overseas Promotion and Publicity (OPP). Ministry also regularly promotes various tourism destinations including the destinations of pilgrimage through its social media handles. In addition, the ‘Utsav Portal’, a digital initiative of the Ministry, aims to showcase all the events, festivals and live darshans across India to promote different regions of the country as popular tourist destinations worldwide. This portal showcases month-wise and State wise calendar contents on festivals, events and online pooja/aarti including events and festivals of the State of Punjab.

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