

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4279
ANSWERED ON 27.03.2023**

**DEVELOPMENT OF TOURIST INFRASTRUCTURE
ON IDENTIFIED TOURIST CIRCUITS**

4279. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the 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 thereof; and**
- (d) the estimate of jobs generated by such investments in the tourism sector in the country during the last five years?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): Development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration (UTA), however, the Ministry of Tourism provides Financial Assistance to State Governments/UTAs/Central Agencies for development of tourism infrastructure including religious sites in the country under its ongoing Schemes of Swadesh Darshan, Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) and Assistance to Central Agencies. Submission of proposals and sanctioning of projects under the above mentioned schemes is a continuous process which is done in consultation with the respective State Government/UTA/Central Agency and is subject to availability of funds, receipt of suitable detailed project reports, adherence to scheme guidelines, performance of ongoing projects and utilization of funds released earlier etc.

(b): Under the PRASHAD Scheme, Ministry of Tourism has approved 45 projects covering 25 States/UTs in the country, out of which physical execution of 21 projects are over.

(c): Under Swadesh Darshan Scheme, a total number of 76 projects under 14 thematic circuits, have been sanctioned in the country for a revised sanction amount of Rs.5292.57 Crore out of which physical execution of 59 projects are over.

(d): Project-wise employment generated through tourism is not maintained by Ministry of Tourism. However, as per estimation in accordance with 3rd Tourism Satellite Account (TSA), the contribution of tourism in total employment of the country for the last five years is as given below:

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Share in jobs (in %)	12.20	14.78	14.87	13.50	12.91
Direct (%)	5.32	6.44	6.48	5.89	5.63
Indirect (%)	6.88	8.33	8.38	7.61	7.28
Direct + Indirect jobs due to tourism (in million)	75.34	72.69	75.85	69.44	68.07

Source: The above estimates have been updated using 3rd TSA & National Account Statistics 2022.
