

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1278
ANSWERED ON 11.12.2023**

PROMOTION OF TOURISM AT WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES

1278.DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY:

SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any action plan to boost tourism in the country to attract more foreigner tourists and also upgrade existing tourist places with latest facilities;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to promote tourism at various wildlife sanctuaries in different parts of the country; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Tourism undertakes an integrated marketing and promotional strategy, and a synergized campaign in association with the Travel Trade, State Governments and Indian Missions in the Overseas Markets. The Ministry of Tourism continuously engages with industry experts and other relevant stakeholders and take their suggestions and feedback for promotion of varied tourism products of India. In order to boost visitor arrival, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has declared “Incredible India! Visit India Year 2023”.

Ministry of Tourism promotes India as a holistic destination in the tourism generating markets to promote various Indian tourism products and tourism destinations of the country to increase India’s share of the global tourism market.

In order to increase the footfall of international tourists in India, Ministry of Tourism, participated in various International travel fairs during the

Year 2023 such as FITUR 2023, Madrid, Spain (18-22 January 2023); ITB Berlin (7-9 March 2023); Arabian Travel Market 2023, Dubai (1-4 May 2023); IMEX Frankfurt (17-19 Oct 2023); OTDYKH Leisure, Moscow, Russia (12-14, September 2023); TOP Resa, Paris, France (3 - 5 October 2023); PATA Travel Mart 2023 (4-6 October 2023) in New Delhi; ITB, Asia, Singapore (25 - 27 Oct 2023); JATA, Osaka, Japan (26-29 October 2023); WTM London (6-8 Nov 2023) to showcase varied tourism products of India including wildlife.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has also issued guidelines to promote wildlife and forest tourism. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, empowers the States/UTs, for declaration of an area as Sanctuary and National Park, if it considers such area is of adequate ecological, faunal, floral, geo-morphological, natural or zoological significance. The management of such designated areas (National Parks, Sanctuaries, Tiger Reserve) is within the ambit of the respective States/UTs. Such management interventions may also include Eco-Tourism activities in these areas. The Ministry has issued guidelines for preparation of management plans for these areas in accordance with the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 on 30.11.2023.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has also issued 'Guidelines for Sustainable Ecotourism in Forest and Wildlife Areas-2021 on 29.10.2021. It promotes engagement of local communities in nature tourism in a manner that enriches local economy and encourages sustainable use of indigenous materials through financially viable value chains thereby helping such local communities become "Atma Nirbhar". Further ministry has also circulated guidelines for preparation of management plans for protected areas which also includes tourism activities.

The National Tiger Conservation Authority has also notified the 'Normative Standards for tourism activities and Project Tiger guidelines, 2012.

Further, Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned projects under Swadesh Darshan scheme for development of wildlife circuit in the country. The details of the same are given at Annexure.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1278 ANSWERED ON 11.12.2023 REGARDING PROMOTION OF TOURISM AT WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES BY DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY AND SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA**

The details of the projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan scheme for developing wildlife tourism in the country are given below:

(Rs. in Crore)

State/ UT	Circuit / Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released	Amount Utilised*
Assam	Wildlife Circuit 2015-16	Development of Manas- Probitora- Nameri- Kaziranga- Dibru- Saikhowa	94.68	89.94	89.53
Madhya Pradesh	Wildlife Circuit 2015-16	Development of Wildlife Circuit at Panna- Mukundpur- Sanjay- Dubri- Bandhavgarh- Kanha- Mukki- Pench	92.10	86.31	86.31
Andhra Pradesh	Coastal Circuit 2014-15	Development of Kakinada - Hope Island - Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary - Passarlapudi - Aduru - S Yanam - Kotipally	67.83	67.83	67.83
