

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.78  
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024**

**NEW TOURISM CIRCUIT PROJECTS IN KERALA**

**78 ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to implement new Tourism Circuit Projects in the State of Kerala under Swadesh Darshan Scheme and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the present status of implementation of the ongoing Sivagiri Tourism Circuit in the State along with the details of fund released and utilized;**
- (c) whether the Government has cognizance of the delay in the implementation of this project;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by the Government to complete the project without further delay; and**
- (e) the time by which the next instalment of funds for this project will be released?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM**

**(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)**

**(a): The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations under its Swadesh Darshan scheme for augmentation of tourism facilities/infrastructure in the country and has already sanctioned 05 projects under Eco, Rural and Spiritual circuit themes in the State of Kerala for Rs.312.47 Crore under the scheme.**

**Now the Ministry of Tourism has revamped the Swadesh Darshan Scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations, following a destination & tourism-centric approach. In consultation with the States/UTs and in line with the scheme guidelines, the Ministry has notified 57 destinations across 32 States/UTs in the country for development under SD 2.0 including 'Kumarakom' and 'Kozhikode (Bey pore)' in Kerala. A project 'Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary Experience' amounting Rs.13.92 Crore has been sanctioned in the State of Kerala under SD 2.0.**

**Further, the Ministry of Tourism has also issued guidelines for 'Challenge Based Destination Development', a sub-scheme under Swadesh Darshan 2.0,**

**under which the Ministry of Tourism has identified 42 destinations for development including 'Varkala' under Culture & Heritage Destinations category and 'Thalassery' under Spiritual Destinations category in the State of Kerala.**

**(b) to (e): The Ministry of Tourism in the year 2018-19 sanctioned the project "Development Sivagiri Sree Narayana Guru Ashram- Arruvipuram-Kunnumpara Sree Subrahmania- Chembazhanthi Sree Narayana Gurukulam" under Swadesh Darshan scheme, with the present sanctioned cost of Rs.66.42 Crore. India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd. (ITDC) is the implementing agency of the project. The Ministry of Tourism has authorized release of Rs.42.01 Crore whereas the implementing agency till 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 has utilized Rs.26.54 Crore. The next set of authorization for release is made by the Ministry on receipt of the Utilization Certificate of the already authorized amount and as per the payment instalments and conditions stipulated in the scheme guidelines. The Ministry of Tourism reviews the progress of the project from time to time and has noted the delay in the completion of project. The Ministry has further directed the implementing agency to expedite the works in co-ordination with local authorities.**

**The implementing agency has reported physical completion of the following works in the project:-**

**(i) Aruvippuram:**

**Community Kitchen, Public Convenience, View Deck Point, Resting Building, Entrance Gate, Supply and Testing of 8 Seater & 4 Seater Battery operated Electric Vehicles, CCTV Camera and Supply Installation Testing & Commissioning of LED solar street lights.**

**(ii) Kunnumpara:**

**Tourist Facilitation Centre, Entrance Gate, Overhead Tank, View Point Deck, Public Convenience, Craft Bazar and Supply Installation Testing & Commissioning of LED solar street lights.**

**(iii) Chempazhanthy:**

**Parking & other Development works, Water Kiosk, Rain Water Harvesting, Tourist Facilitation Centre and Supply Installation Testing & Commissioning of LED solar street lights.**

**(iv) Sivagiri:**

**Parking, Rain Shelter, Bus Shelter, Water Tank, Supply & Testing of 8 Seater and 4 Seater Battery operated Electric Vehicle, CCTV Camera, Supply Installation Testing & Commissioning of LED solar street lights and Supply Installation Testing & Commissioning of Under Ground HT/LT cable Work.**

**\*\*\*\*\***