

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2109
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2024**

PROPOSAL FOR NATIONAL TOURIST SPOT

2109 SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for declaration of Nrusighnath under district Bargarh and Harshankar under district Balangir, both in Odisha State as National tourist spot in view of their historical and mythological importance?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

The Ministry of Tourism has no scheme for declaration of National tourist spot. However, the Ministry of Tourism through its central sector schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan' (SD) and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive' (PRASHAD) complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development by extending financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations in consultation with them. The details of the projects sanctioned under these schemes in the State of Odisha is annexed.

The Ministry of Tourism has recently 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 & tourist-centric approach. In consultation with the States/UTs and in line with the scheme guidelines, the Ministry has accordingly identified 57 destinations in the country for development under SD 2.0 including 'Koraput' & 'Debrigarh along with special attraction of Khinda village' in Odisha.

In addition, the Ministry has also identified 'Chausath Yogini Temple' (Balangir District) and 'Maa Kichakeswari Temple' (Mayurbhanj District) in Odisha under PRASHAD scheme.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2109 ANSWERED ON 05.08.2024 REGARDING PROPOSAL FOR NATIONAL TOURIST SPOT RAISED BY SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT.**

(i) The details of the project sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan scheme in the State Odisha is as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Circuit / Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned
Coastal Circuit 2016-17	Development of Gopalpur, Barkul, Satapada and Tampara	70.82

(ii) The details of the project sanctioned under PRASHAD scheme in the State of Odisha is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Sanction Year	Project Name	Approved Cost
2014-15	Infrastructure Development at Puri	50.00
