

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2059**  
ANSWERED ON 12.12.2024

**SETTING UP RURAL TOURISM CLUSTER AND TOURIST PARKS  
IN HIMACHAL PRADESH**

2059 DR. SIKANDER KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken into consideration to set up rural tourism clusters and tourist parks to encourage tourism in Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of such clusters and parks proposed to be set up in Himachal Pradesh;
- (d) whether Government is formulating any scheme for bringing improvement in order to promote rural tourism in Himachal Pradesh; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the positive result achieved in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (e): Development and promotion of tourism destinations and products is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Government (SG)/ Union Territory Administration (UT). However, the Ministry of Tourism under its Central Sector scheme of 'Swadesh Darshan' complements tourism development efforts undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations by extending financial assistance in consultation with them. The Ministry under its Swadesh Darshan Scheme has sanctioned 76 projects for Rs.5287.90 Crore in the country including 1 project for Rs.68.34 Crore in the State of Himachal Pradesh. The projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan Scheme in the country are distributed among different identified thematic circuits including Rural Circuit. The details of projects sanctioned under Rural Circuit of the scheme are given at Annexure.

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 destinations following a tourist & destination centric approach and has identified 'Pong Dam' in Himachal Pradesh as destination. In addition, the Ministry has identified 'Kaza' under Culture & Heritage destination category and 'Rakchham, Chhitkul' under Vibrant Villages Program destination category in Himachal Pradesh under 'Challenge Based Destination Development' (CBDD), a sub-scheme under Swadesh Darshan 2.0.

The Government has approved the initiative to develop tribal home-stays under Swadesh Darshan Scheme, as part of 'Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan'. The said intervention includes development of 1000 homestays with support of upto Rs.5Lakh per unit (for new construction), upto Rs.3Lakh (renovation) and Rs.5Lakh for village community requirement.

Further, Ministry of Tourism has formulated National Strategies and Roadmaps for the development of Rural Tourism and Rural Homestays in India with the vision to leverage this latent potential and forge a dynamic, responsible and sustainable tourism environment in the rural areas of India.

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**ANNEXURE**

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2059 ANSWERED ON 12.12.2024 REGARDING SETTING UP RURAL TOURISM CLUSTER AND TOURIST PARKS IN HIMACHAL PRADESH RAISED BY DR. SIKANDER KUMAR.**

**PROJECTS SANCTIONED UNDER RURAL CIRCUIT THEME OF SWADESH DARSHAN SCHEME:**

**Amount in (₹ Crore)**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of State</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Amount Sanctioned</b>
1.	Bihar	(2017-18)	Development of Gandhi Circuit: Bhitiharwa-Chandrahia- Turkaulia	44.27
2.	Kerala	(2018-19)	Development of Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism Project	57.35
			<b>Total</b>	<b>101.62</b>

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