

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2117
ANSWERED ON 09.12.2024**

DEVELOPMENT OF MARDJA JAGANNATH TEMPLE

2117. SMT. ANITA SUBHADARSHINI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to develop new tourist destinations in the country during the current financial year;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;**
- (c) whether the Government is considering to develop 'Marda Jagannath Temple' popularly called 'Sarana Srikhetra' as well as 'Nirmal Jhara' as tourist destinations precisely in Aska Parliamentary Constituency in the State of Odisha; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): 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 of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations by extending financial assistance to them. This support is extended in consultation with the concerned State Government and subject to the scheme guidelines, receipt of project proposal under relevant scheme from the State Government, availability of funds etc. Presently, there is no proposal under consideration to develop 'Marda Jagannath Temple' and 'Nirmal Jhara' as tourist destinations, however, Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned 1 project each under its Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD schemes in the State of Odisha, as per the details given below:

Scheme	Name of Project	Year of Sanction	Amount Sanction in (₹ Crore)
Swadesh	Development of Gopalpur, Barkul, Satapada and Tampara (Coastal Circuit)	2016-17	70.82
PRASHAD	Infrastructure Development at Puri	2014-15	50

Ministry of Tourism under its revamped scheme of Swadesh Darshan 2.0, has identified 'Koraput' and 'Debrigarh along with special attraction of Khinda Village' in Odisha as destinations and 'Chausath Yogini Temple', Ranipur in Jharia and 'Maa Kichakeswari Temple' in Kiching under PRASHAD Scheme.

Government of India has also sanctioned 2 tourism projects namely 'Development of Hirakud' for Rs.99.90 Crore and 'Development of Satkosia' for Rs.99.99 Crore in State of Odisha under the 'Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2024-25' (SASCI).
