

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.459
ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025

AJJ SAROVAR AND RAM TEMPLE IN PUNJAB

459 SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Ministry to promote tourism on locations/pilgrimage sites associated with Lord Ram and his family till date;
- (b) whether the Ministry is considering the rejuvenation of Ajj Sarovar and Ram Temple in Punjab under the PRASHAD scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is considering any initiative to create a memorial for Maharaja Ajj, the forefather of Lord Ram at this site and whether steps being taken to ensure the preservation of rich history of this region; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a): The development and promotion of tourism destinations and products are primarily undertaken by the concerned State Government (SG)/Union Territory Administration (UT).

The Ministry of Tourism through its central sector schemes of “Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive” (PRASHAD), ‘Swadesh Darshan (SD)’ and ‘Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development’ complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development by extending financial assistance to the SGs/UTs/ Central Agencies.

Under the above schemes, the Ministry has provided financial assistance to various projects aimed at developing tourism infrastructure at locations and pilgrimage sites associated with Lord Ram and his family.

These include:

- a) Development of Pilgrimage Infrastructure at Bhadrachalam under PRASHAD.
- b) Basic facilities at Vishnupad Temple, Gaya under PRASHAD.
- c) Development of Chitrakoot and Shringverpur in Uttar Pradesh under Ramayan Circuit of SD.
- d) Development of Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh under the Ramayan Circuit of SD.
- e) Development of (Chennai-Mamamallapuram-Rameshwaram-Manpadu-Kanyakumari) under the Coastal Circuit of SD.
- f) Spiritual Experience at Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh under SD 2.0.
- g) ‘Development of RAM-KAL PATH in Nashik, Maharashtra’ under the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2024-25.
- h) Gaya Railway Station under Assistance to Central Agencies Scheme.

The Ministry of Tourism as part of its ongoing endeavour also promotes various tourism destinations and products of the country through promotional activities, events, website, social media promotions etc.

(b) to (d): No proposal is under consideration of this ministry regarding rejuvenation of Ajj Sarovar and Ram temple in Punjab and creation of a memorial for Maharaja Ajj under PRASHAD scheme of the Ministry of Tourism.
