

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1026
ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025**

**NRUSINGHANATH AND HARISHANKAR TEMPLES AS TOURIST
DESTINATION**

1026. SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering declaring major tourist destinations in Odisha, including Nrusinghanath Temple and Harishankar Temple, as national tourism spots;**
- (b) whether any steps have been taken or proposals submitted by the Government to promote these temples under national tourism schemes, considering their historical, cultural and religious significance, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) whether the Government plans to allocate special funds or launch development projects to enhance infrastructure, connectivity and tourism facilities at Nrusinghanath Temple and Harishankar Temple as well as Odisha and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): 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 in the country by extending financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations including the State of Odisha.

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

No proposal is under consideration of the Ministry of Tourism for development of infrastructure around the sites Nrusinghanath Temple and Harishankar Temple in Odisha. Receiving proposals from the State Governments/UT Administrations/Central Agencies for financial assistance for tourism projects is a continuous process. The proposals received are examined with reference to the prescribed guidelines and financial assistance is extended for such projects subject to fulfilment of the stipulated conditions and availability of funds.

Details of the projects sanctioned in Odisha under the different schemes of the Ministry is given in the annexure.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1026 ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025 REGARDING NRUSINGHANATH AND HARISHANKAR TEMPLES AS TOURIST DESTINATION RAISED BY SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT****Details of project sanctioned under PRASHAD Scheme:-**

Name of scheme	Year of Sanction	Sanctioned Amount in ₹ Crore
Infrastructure Development at Puri	2014-15	50.00

Details of project sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan scheme:-

State/ UT	Circuit / Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned in ₹ Crore
Odisha	Coastal Circuit 2016-17	Development of Gopalpur, Barkul, Satapada and Tampara	70.82

Details of destination identified under SD 2.0 in the state of Odisha:-

Odisha	Koraput, Debrigarh
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Details of project under Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI Scheme):-

State	Name of the Project	Sanctioned Cost (₹ Crore)
Odisha	Development of Satkosia	99.99
Odisha	Development of Hirakund	99.90
