

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.72
ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025**

PROJECTS TO DEVELOP LESSER KNOWN DESTINATIONS

**72. SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE:
SMT. BHARTI PARDHI:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has approved tourism projects to develop lesser known destinations into iconic sites;**
- (b) if so, the details of the sites identified therefor, State-wise, particularly in Maharashtra and Balaghat of Madhya Pradesh;**
- (c) whether any time line has been fixed for completion of these projects;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the funds sanctioned and released therefor, State-wise, particularly in Maharashtra and Balaghat of Madhya Pradesh; and**
- (e) the details of steps taken by the Union Government to distribute tourists more evenly, promote local economies and ensure sustainable growth in tourism?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): While development and promotion of tourism destinations and products is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Government (SG)/Union Territory Administration (UTA), 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 SGs/UTAs in synergy with the scheme guidelines, availability of funds etc.

The Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD schemes were launched in the year 2014-15. Since its inception a total number of 76 projects under different thematic circuits of Swadesh Darshan scheme, have been sanctioned in the country for a revised sanction amount of Rs.5287.90 Crore out of which Rs.4956.39 Crore has been released/authorized. Out of these 76

projects, 75 projects are reported physically complete. Since its launch the Ministry has sanctioned 47 projects in 27 States/UTs under the PRASHAD scheme with estimated cost of Rs.1594.40 crore and a total amount of Rs.1036.96 crore has been released for these project.

Ministry of Tourism has revamped the Swadesh Darshan Scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD 2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations, following a destination & tourist-centric approach.

Under 'Scheme for Special Assistance to States/Union Territories for Capital Investment (SASCI) - Development of Iconic Tourist Centers to Global Scale', Government of India has recently sanctioned 40 Projects in the country for Rs.3295.76 Crore. Under the Scheme the projects are to be completed by 31.03.2026.

The details of the projects sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan, SD 2.0, PRASHAD and SASCI schemes in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are Annexed.

(e): Ministry of Tourism has taken several steps to distribute tourists more evenly, promote local economies and ensure sustainable growth in tourism.

Under various schemes of the Ministry, tourism facilities are developed in various parts of the country including lesser-known destinations.

The Ministry advises States/UTs to ensure due consultation with the local communities in preparing the projects and emphasis is given on adoption of principles of sustainable tourism including environmental sustainability, Socio-cultural sustainability and economic sustainability.

Ministry of Tourism has also formulated a National Strategy for Sustainable Tourism and launched 'Travel for LiFE', a sectoral program under Mission Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE). The objective of Travel for LiFE is to promote mainstreaming of sustainability in the tourism sector, create awareness and nudge tourists and tourism businesses to adopt sustainable practices synchronous with nature.

The Ministry of Tourism has also revamped its Swadesh Darshan scheme in the form of Swadesh Darshan 2.0 with the mission to create a robust framework for integrated development of tourism destinations.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.72 ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025 REGARDING PROJECTS TO DEVELOP LESSER KNOWN DESTINATIONS RAISED BY SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE AND SMT. BHARTI PARDHI:****List of the projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan scheme in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra: -****(Rs. in Crore)**

S. No.	State	Circuit	Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released/ Authorized*
1	Madhya Pradesh	Wildlife Circuit	2015-16	Development of Wildlife Circuit at Panna- Mukundpur- Sanjay- Dubri- Bandhavgarh- Kanha- Mukki- Pench	92.10	86.31
2	Madhya Pradesh	Buddhist Circuit	2016-17	Development of Sanchi- Satna-Rewa- Mandsaur- Dhar	74.02	72.75
3	Madhya Pradesh	Heritage Circuit	2016-17	Development of Gwalior – Orchha – Khajuraho – Chanderi – Bhimbetka – Mandu	89.82	89.49
4	Madhya Pradesh	Eco Circuit	2017-18	Development of Gandhisagar Dam- Mandleshwar Dam- Omkareshwar	93.76	93.59

				Dam- Indira Sagar Dam- Tawa Dam- Bargi Dam- BhedaGhat- Bansagar Dam- Ken River		
5	Maharashtra	Coastal Circuit	2015-16	Development of Sindhudurg Coastal Circuit - Sagarshwar, Tarkarli, Vijaydurg (Beach & Creek), Mitbhav	19.06	18.10
6	Maharashtra	Spiritual Circuit	2018-19	Development of Waki- Adasa- Dhapewada- Paradsingha- Telankhandi- Girad	45.47	43.19

*** Includes amount of authorization to CNA through TSA Model I for Central Sector Scheme.**

List of sanctioned projects under Swadesh Darshan 2.0, in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra:-

S. No.	State	Destination	Name of the Experience	Sanctioned Cost (Rs. Crore)	Date of Sanction
1	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior	Phoolbagh Experience Zone	16.73	29-02-2024
2	Madhya Pradesh	Chitrakoot	Spiritual experience at Chitrakoot	27.21	05-03-2024

3	Maharashtra	Pune	Shivrushti Historical Theme Park-Phase 3	76.22	21-09-2024
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List of sanctioned projects under Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI Scheme) - Development of Iconic Tourist Centers to Global Scale, in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra: -

S. No.	State	Name of the Project	Sanctioned Cost (Rs. in Crore)	Date of Sanction
1	Madhya Pradesh	Orchha A Medieval Splendour in Orchha	99.92	26-11-2024
2	Madhya Pradesh	International Convention Centre for MICE in Bhopal	99.38	26-11-2024
3	Maharashtra	INS-Guldar Underwater Museum, Artificial Reef, and Submarine Tourism in Sindhudurg	46.91	26-11-2024
4	Maharashtra	Development of RAM-KAL PATH in Nashik	99.14	26-11-2024

List of sanctioned projects under PRASHAD Scheme, in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra:-

(Rs. in Crore)

S. No.	State	Project Name	Sanction Year	Approved Cost	Amount Released
1	Madhya Pradesh	Development of Amarkantak	2020-21	49.99	34.73
2	Madhya Pradesh	Development of Omkareshwar	2017-18	43.93	43.93
3	Maharashtra	Development of Trimbakeshwar	2017-18	42.18	29.93
