

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3845
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025**

RESTORATION AND BEAUTIFICATION OF FORT KOCHI BEACH

3845. SHRI HIBI EDEN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian tourism industry has been facing various challenges/issues/difficulties;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the response of the Government thereto;**
- (c) whether the Government is planning to allocate special funds for the restoration of Fort Kochi Beach, Ernakulam, Kerala, considering its historical and tourism significance, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government recognizes the urgent need to restore the Fort Kochi Beach and walkway, which are in a state of neglect despite being major tourist attractions, if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Government proposes to include Fort Kochi Beach in any existing or upcoming tourism development schemes to ensure its long-term preservation, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) whether the Government is likely to provide financial assistance to the State Government of Kerala for the urgent restoration and beautification of Fort Kochi Beach and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) & (b): Mitigating various issues, challenges and difficulties arising in tourism sector from time to time is a continuous process. While various issues related to development and promotion of tourism fall under the ambit of concerned State Governments/UT Administrations, the Ministry of Tourism through its schemes of tourism infrastructure development, marketing and promotion, skill development etc. complements these tourism development efforts by undertaking various initiatives in the country.

(c) to (f): The Ministry of Tourism under its 'Swadesh Darshan' & 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' schemes provides financial assistance to State Government/UT Administration for undertaking tourism related projects. Such assistance is provided on receipt of the project proposals from the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations and subject to its adherence to the scheme guidelines and instructions issued by the Government from time to time, availability of budget, inter-se priority etc.

Presently there is no proposal under active consideration of the Ministry of Tourism for allocating special funds for restoration of Fort Kochi Beach.

However, the Ministry since inception of Swadesh Darshan scheme in 2014-15 sanctioned a total number of 76 projects under different thematic circuits for Rs. 5287.90 Crore including 5 projects in the State of Kerala.

Now the Ministry has revamped the Swadesh Darshan scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable destinations and has sanctioned 34 projects in the country for Rs. 791.25 Crore including 1 project in the State of Kerala.

Under 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' scheme, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned 48 projects in the country for Rs. 1620.21 Crore including 1 Project in the State of Kerala.

Further, Government of India under its 'Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) – Development of Iconic Tourist Centres to Global Scale' sanctioned 40 projects in 23 States for Rs. 3295.76 Crore including 2 projects in the State of Kerala, in Financial Year 2024-25.

The details of the projects sanctioned in the State of Kerala under Swadesh Darshan, SD2.0, PRASHAD and SASCI schemes is Annexed.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (c) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3845 ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025 REGARDING RESTORATION AND BEAUTIFICATION OF FORT KOCHI BEACH RAISED BY SHRI HIBI EDEN**

List of Projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan, Swadesh Darshan 2.0, PRASHAD and SASCI in the State of Kerala are as under

Swadesh Darshan scheme		
Circuit/ Year of sanction	Name of the Project	Amount sanctioned (₹ in Crore)
Eco Circuit 2015-16	Development of Pathanamthitta- Gavi-Vagamon- Thekkady	64.08
Spiritual Circuit 2016-17	Development of Sabarimala - Erumeli-Pampa-Sannidhanam	46.54
Spiritual Circuit 2016-17	Development of Sree Padmanabha Temple, Aranmula	78.08
Rural Circuit 2018-19	Development of Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism Project	57.35
Spiritual Circuit 2018-19	Development Sivagiri Sree Narayana Guru Ashram- Arruvipuram- Kunnumpara Sree Subrahmania- Chembazhanthi Sree Narayana Gurukulam	66.42
Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme		
2023-24	Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary Experience	13.92
PRASHAD		
2016-17	Development at Guruvayur Temple	45.19
SASCI		
2024-25	Ashtamudi Biodiversity and Eco-recreational Hub in Kollam	59.71
2024-25	Global Gateway to Malabar's Cultural Crucible in Sargaalaya	95.34
