GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF TOURISM

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *318 ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025

ACHIEVEMENTS OF PRASHAD SCHEME

*318. SHRI RAVINDRA DATTARAM WAIKAR: DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to highlight the remarkable achievements of the Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) scheme at major pilgrimage sites across the country;
- (b) the details of the positive growth at destinations developed under the said scheme;
- (c) the details of the strategy of the Government for developing integrated spiritual circuits offering a seamless and holistic journey for devotees;
- (d) the details of the concrete steps taken/being taken to ensure the highest standards of 'Swachhata' and waste management at these sacred sites; and
- (e) the manner in which the Government plans to leverage digital technologies, such as Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR), to create immersive experiences that narrate the rich history and significance of these sites?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*318 ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025 REGARDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF PRASHAD SCHEME RAISED BY SHRI RAVINDRA DATTARAM WAIKAR AND DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:

(a) and (b): The Ministry of Tourism under the "Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive" (PRASHAD) provides financial assistance to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for development of tourism infrastructure at identified religious and heritage sites across the country.

Since the launch of the PRASHAD Scheme in January 2015, the Ministry has sanctioned 54 projects in 28 States/UTs with an estimated cost of Rs.1726.74 Crores. The details of the projects are given in the Annexure.

Under 54 sanctioned projects of the PRASHAD Scheme across 28 States/UTs, the Ministry of Tourism has developed various amenities for improving overall tourist experience such as Tourist Facilitation Centres, Approach Roads and Parking, Waiting Halls, Cloak Rooms, Public Convenience, Cafeteria, Solid Waste Management, Signages, Site Development viz. Landscaping and beautification, Development of Annadanam Centres, etc.

As per the Report on Evaluation of Central Sector Scheme-PRASHAD by IIM Rohtak in the year 2021, the Scheme has helped in increasing the visitor satisfaction, ease of travel and aesthetical aspects of the selected heritage sites. Also, the report mentioned that the Scheme has led to increase in the positive overall visitor user experience.

(c) to (e): Development of tourist destinations is undertaken by the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration. The Ministry complements the efforts of States/UTs by developing and promoting various tourism products of the country, through various schemes and initiatives. This process is undertaken in consultation with State Governments (SGs)/UT Administrations (UTs).

The Ministry of Tourism under Swadesh Darshan scheme has developed projects under various thematic circuits such as Spiritual Circuits, Buddhist Circuits, Tirthankar Circuits, Krishna Circuits, Ramayana Circuits, etc.

Under the PRASHAD Scheme, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned various projects for the development of tourism infrastructure at identified pilgrimage destinations.

Through the schemes, the Ministry of Tourism aims to enhance the country's tourism landscape by adopting a holistic approach to infrastructure development and has sanctioned components such as upgradation of tourist arrival areas with Tourist Facilitation Centres, approach roads and parking; provision of basic amenities like waiting halls and cloakrooms; and development of utility infrastructure, landscaping and beautification and the development of Annadanam Centres, etc.

While the regular maintenance of cleanliness at pilgrimage sites is the responsibility of concerned State Government/UT administration, local bodies and temple trusts, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned various interventions to promote hygiene, and cleanliness such as solid waste management systems, sewage treatment plants, public conveniences, bio-toilets, pet bottle flaking machines, dustbins, waste segregation units, and Pious waste management.

The Ministry of Tourism also encourages State Governments/UT Administrations to leverage innovative technologies for enhancing visitor experience at pilgrimage and heritage sites and has sanctioned components such as experiential centres and AR/VR facilities under the Scheme. Further, the Ministry has sanctioned components such as Amphitheaters, Open Air Theatres (OATs), Light and Sound shows, Interpretation centres which provides a platform for narrating the rich history and significance of these sites.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*318 ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025 REGARDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF PRASHAD SCHEME BY SHRI RAVINDRA DATTARAM WAIKAR AND DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE

List of projects under PRASHAD Scheme

S. No	State	Project Name	Sanction Year	Sanction Amount (Rs. Crores)	Amount Released (RS. Crores)	Physical Progress
1	Andhra Pradesh	Development of Amaravati Town, Guntur District as a Tourist Destination		27.77	27.77	100%
2	Andhra Pradesh	Development of Srisailam Temple	2017-18	43.08	43.08	100%
3	Andhra Pradesh	Sri Varaha Lakshmi Narsimha Swami VariDevasthanam at Simhachalam in Vishakhapatnam Temple		54.04	27.37	65%
4	Andhra Pradesh	Pilgrimage Tourism Infrastructure in Annavaram Temple Town	2024-25	25.33	- 24.02	
5	Arunachal Pradesh	Development of ParshuramKund, LohitDistt.	2020-21	37.88	31.02	92%
6	Assam	Development of Kamakhya Temple and Pilgrimage Destination in	2015-16	29.80	29.80	100%

		and around Guwahati				
7	Bihar	Development at Patna Sahib	2015-16	29.62	29.62	100%
8	Bihar	Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple, Gaya, Bihar	2014-15	3.63	3.63	100%
9	Bihar	Development of AmbikaBhawani Temple, Saran	2024-25	13.29	-	-
10	Chhattisg arh	Development of MaaBamleshwari Devi Temple, Dongargarh, Rajnandgaon District, Chhattisgarh	2020-21	48.44	40.19	100%
11	Goa	Development of Bom Jesus Basilica	2024-25	16.46	4.68	-
12	Gujarat	Development of Dwarka	2016-17	10.46	10.46	100%
13	Gujarat	Development of Pilgrimage Amenities at Somnath	2016-17	45.36	45.36	100%
14	Gujarat	Development of Promenade at Somnath	2018-19	47.12	47.12	100%
15	Gujarat	Development of Pilgrimage Facilities at AmbajiTemple, Banaskantha, Gujarat	2022-23	50.00	30.00	38%
16	Haryana	Development of Mata Mansa Devi Temple and Nada SahebGurudwara in Panchkula District	2019-20	48.53	34.68	74%

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17	Jammu & Kashmir	Development at Hazratbal Shrine, Srinagar	2016-17	40.46	34.30	100%
18	Jharkhand	Development of Baba BaidyanathDham, Deoghar	2018-19	36.79	34.95	100%
19	Karnataka	Development of Pilgrimage Amenities at Sri Chamundeshwari Devi Temple, Mysuru	2023-24	45.38	0.00	0%
20	Karnataka	Development of RenukaYallama Devi temple	2024-25	18.37	-	-
21	Karnataka	Development of Basic Amenities at Papnash Temple, Bidar dist.	2024-25	22.25	-	0%
22	Kerala	Development at Guruvayur Temple	2016-17	45.19	45.19	100%
23	Madhya Pradesh	Development of Amarkantak	2020-21	49.99	42.47	100%
24	_	Development of Omkareshwar	2017-18	43.93	43.93	100%
25	tra	Development of Trimbakeshwar, Nashik	2017-18	45.41	38.44	91%
26	Meghalaya	Development of Pilgrimage Facilitation in Meghalaya	2020-21	29.29	27.78	100%
27	Mizoram	Development of Infrastructure for Pilgrimage and Heritage Tourism in the State of Mizoram	2022-23	44.89	26.37	44.5%
28	Mizoram	Development of Basic Amenities	2024-25	5.47	-	-

		under PRASHAD scheme in Vangchhia, Champhai District				
29	Nagaland		2018-19	25.20	23.56	100%
30	Nagaland	Development of Pilgrimage Tourism Infrastructure at Zunheboto	2022-23	18.18	15.45	99%
31	Odisha	Infrastructure Development at Puri, Shree JagannathDham - Ramachandi - Prachi River front at Demuliunder Mega Circuit	2014-15	50.00	10.00	27%
32	Puducherry	Development of Pilgrim Facilites& Tourist attractions for Sri Dharbaranyeswar a Temple	2024-25	25.94	-	-
33	Punjab	Development of KarunaSagar Valmiki Sthal at Amritsar	2015-16	6.40	6.40	100%
34	Punjab	Development of Chamkaur Sahib at Rupar, Punjab	2021-22	30.52	21.93	79%
35	Rajasthan	Integrated Development of Pushkar/Ajmer	2015-16	32.64	26.11	100%
36	Sikkim		2020-21	33.32	28.31	100%

		Saints, Yuksom				
37	Tamil Nadu	Development of Kanchipuram	2016-17	13.99	13.99	100%
38	Tamil Nadu	Development of Velankanni	2016-17	4.86	4.86	100%
39	Tamil Nadu	Development of 8 Navagraha Temples	2024-25	40.94	-	-
40	Telangana	Development of Jogulamba Devi Temple, Alampur	2020-21	38.90	33.07	100%
41	Telangana		2022-23	62.00	32.73	75%
42	Telangana	Development of Pilgrimage Infrastructure at Bhadrachalam, BhadradriKothag udem District	2022-23	41.38	8.43	29%
43	Telangana	Development of Basic Amenities at goddess RenukaYellamaD evasthanam	2024-25	4.22	-	-
44	Tripura	Development of Tripura Sundari Temple, Udaipur	2020-21	34.43	28.01	79%
45	Uttar Pradesh	Development of Varanasi – Phase –I	2015-16	18.73	18.73	100%
46	Uttar Pradesh	Development of Mathura- Vrindavan as Mega Tourist Circuit (Ph-II)	2014-15	10.98	10.98	100%
47	Uttar Pradesh	River Cruise Tourism in	2017-18	9.02	9.02	100%

		Ganga, Varanasi				
48	Uttar Pradesh	Construction of Tourist Facilitation	2014-15	9.36	9.36	100%
		Centre at Vrindavan				
49	Uttar Pradesh	Development of Varanasi – Phase –II	2017-18	44.60	31.77	100%
50	Uttar Pradesh	Development of Infrastructure facilities at Govardhan	2018-19	37.59	30.97	100%
51	Uttarakh and	Integrated Development of Kedarnath	2015-16	34.77	34.77	100%
52	Uttarakh and	Development of Infrastructure for Pilgrimage Facilitation in Badrinath Ji Dham	2018-19	56.15	38.38	85%
53	Uttarakh and	Augmentation of Pilgrimage Infrastructure Facilities and Gangotri and YamunotriDham	2021-22	54.36	10.22	100%
54	West Bengal		2016-17	30.03	23.39	100%
		Total		1726.74	1168.65	
