

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3333**  
ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025

**PROMOTION OF GUJARAT AS A GLOBAL TOURISM DESTINATION**

3333 SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI:

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

- (a) the initiatives taken to promote Gujarat as a global tourism destination, especially heritage, spiritual and eco-tourism circuits particularly in Dwarka and Ambaji temples;
- (b) the status of central assistance for infrastructure development in sites like Gir, Somnath, Dwarka and the Statue of Unity;
- (c) whether any new tourism schemes are being considered under the Swadesh Darshan or PRASAD schemes for Dwarka and Ambaji spiritual places in Gujarat, if so the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the employment impact of the tourism sector in the State and measures to boost rural and tribal tourism?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a): The Ministry of Tourism promotes diverse tourist destinations and experiences of India including heritage, spiritual, rural, tribal and eco-tourism sites of Gujarat in a holistic manner, through various initiatives including promotional events, assistance to State Governments for organizing fairs and festivals, websites, social media handles etc.

(b) to (c): Development and promotion of tourist destinations and products, is undertaken by the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration. The Ministry under its various schemes complements the efforts of States/UT Administrations to develop tourism infrastructure. Details of projects sanctioned under various schemes in the State of Gujarat is at Annexure.

(d): Ministry of Tourism does not maintain the State-wise number of jobs in tourism sector. However, the employment scenario in the tourism sector in India in last five years is given below:

S. No.	Financial Year	Total Number of Jobs ( in Crore)
1	2019-20	6.94
2	2020-21	6.81
3	2021-22	7.00
4	2022-23	7.62
5	2023-24	8.46

Source: Estimates based on Periodic Labour Force Survey

\*\*\*\*\*

## ANNEXURE

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (b) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3333 ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025 REGARDING PROMOTION OF GUJARAT AS A GLOBAL TOURISM DESTINATION RAISED BY SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI**

List of projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan Scheme 1.0 in the State of Gujarat is as under:

S. No.	Circuit / Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned (in ₹ Crore)	Status
1.	Heritage Circuit 2016-17	Development of Ahmedabad- Rajkot- Porbandar – Bardoli- Dandi	59.17	Completed
2.	Heritage Circuit 2016-17	Development of Vadnagar- Modhera	91.12	Completed
3.	Buddhist Circuit 2017-18	Development of Junagadh- Gir Somnath- Bharuch- Kutch- Bhavnagar- Rajkot- Mehsana	26.68	Completed

List of projects sanctioned under Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD), a sub-scheme of Swadesh Darshan scheme in the State of Gujarat is as under:

S. No.	Year of Sanction	Name of the Project	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)	Status
1.	2024-25	Transformation of Sharmishtha Lake: Light & culture at Vadnagar	17.29	On going
2.	2024-25	The Sacred Ocean Retreat at Harsiddhi Shore, Porbandar	24.66	On going
3.	2024-25	THOL: Transformative Tourism' Harmonious Sustainability, Optimized Skilling' Leading Technology	9.96	On going

List of projects sanctioned under the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI Scheme) - Development of Iconic Tourist Centres to Global Scale in the State of Gujarat is as under:

S. No.	Year of Sanction	Name of the Project	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)	Status
1.	2024-25	Ecotourism Destination at Kerly (Mokarsagar) in Porbandar	99.50	On going
2.	2024-25	Tented City and Convention Centre in Dhordo	51.56	On going

List of projects sanctioned under Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) Scheme in the State of Gujarat is as under:

S. No.	Project Name	Sanction Year	Sanction Amount (in ₹ Crore)	Status
1.	Development of Dwarka	2016-17	10.46	Completed
2.	Development of Pilgrimage Amenities at Somnath	2016-17	45.36	Completed
3.	Development of Promenade at Somnath	2018-19	47.12	Completed
4.	Development of Pilgrimage Facilities at Ambaji Temple, Banaskantha, Gujarat	2022-23	50.00	On going

\*\*\*\*\*