

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3345
ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025

PROMOTION OF ECO-TOURISM AND SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN MAHARASHTRA

3345 SHRI DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK:

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

- (a) the initiatives undertaken to promote eco-tourism in Maharashtra's forest and wildlife areas;
- (b) the measures adopted to ensure sustainable and responsible tourism practices;
- (c) the number of eco-tourism projects supported in the State and the impact of these projects; and
- (d) the role of the Ministry in creating awareness among tourists and local stakeholders regarding eco-tourism and sustainability?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): Development and promotion of tourist destinations and products, including eco-tourism is undertaken by the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration. The Ministry complements the efforts of States/UTs through various schemes and initiatives. The Ministry of Tourism promotes India in a holistic manner, through various initiatives. As part of on-going activities; promotion of eco-tourism is also taken up.

In order to provide impetus for development of eco-tourism in the country, Ministry of Tourism formulated National Strategy for eco-tourism and initiated Travel for LiFE programme to encourage the tourists and tourism businesses to adopt sustainable tourism practices.

The Ministry of Tourism through its central sector schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan', 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' and 'Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development' extends financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations for tourism infrastructure development in the country. The projects undertaken for development by the Ministry are identified in consultation with State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations / Central Agencies and are sanctioned subject to submission of project proposals by them, their adherence to relevant scheme guidelines and submission of suitable Detailed Project Reports. The Ministry has identified Eco Circuit and Wildlife Circuit as one of the thematic circuits under its Swadesh Darshan Scheme. The list of projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan Scheme including in Maharashtra are given at Annexure.

The Swadesh Darshan scheme has been revamped to Swadesh Darshan 2.0 for integrated development of tourism destinations in partnership with the States/UTs and local governments for promoting sustainable and responsible tourism in the country.

"Challenge Based Destination Development", a sub-scheme under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 aims for holistic development of a destination to enhance tourist experience across all of tourism value chain to transform our tourist destinations as sustainable and responsible destinations.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3345 ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025 REGARDING PROMOTION OF ECO-TOURISM AND SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN MAHARASHTRA RAISED BY SHRI DHANANJAY BHIMRAO MAHADIK

List of projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan scheme:-

(₹ in crore)

S. No.	State/ UT	Circuit / Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Coastal Circuit 2016-17	Development of Long Island-Ross Smith Island- Neil Island- Havelock Island- Baratang Island-Port Blair	27.57
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Coastal Circuit 2014-15	Development of Kakinada - Hope Island - Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary - Passarlapudi - Aduru - S Yanam – Kotipally	67.83
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Coastal Circuit 2015-16	Development of Nellore - Pulikat Lake - Ubbilamadugu Water Falls – Nelapattu-Kothakoduru- Mypadu - Ramateertham – Iskapalli	49.55
4.	Andhra Pradesh	Buddhist Circuit 2017-18	Development of Buddhist Circuit: Shalihundam-Bavikonda- Bojjanakonda -Amravati- Anupu	35.24
5.	Arunachal Pradesh	North East Circuit 2014-15	Development of Bhalukpong- Bomdila and Tawang	49.77
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	North East Circuit 2015-16	Development of Nafra- Seppa- Pappu, Pasa, Pakke Valleys- Sangdupota- New Sagalee- Ziro- Yomcha	96.72
7.	Assam	Wildlife Circuit 2015-16	Development of Manas– Probitora– Nameri– Kaziranga– Dibru– Saikhowa	94.68
8.	Assam	Heritage Circuit 2016-17	Development of Tezpur – Majuli – Sibsagar	90.98
9.	Bihar	Tirthankar Circuit 2016-17	Development of Vaishali- Arrah- Masad- Patna- Rajgir- Pawapuri- Champapuri	33.96
10.	Bihar	Spiritual Circuit 2016-17	Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj – Dharmshala- Deoghar	44.76
11.	Bihar	Buddhist Circuit 2016-17	Development of Buddhist circuit- Construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya	95.18
12.	Bihar	Rural Circuit	Development of Bhitiharwa- Chandrahia- Turkaulia	44.27

		2017-18		
13.	Bihar	Spiritual Circuit 2017-18	Development of Mandar Hill & Ang Pradesh	44.55
14.	Chhattisgarh	Tribal Circuit 2015-16	Development of Jashpur- Kunkuri- Mainpat- Kamleshpur - Maheshpur -Kurdar - Sarodhadadar- Gangrel- Kondagaon– Nathiyanawagaon- Jagdalpur- Chitrakoot- Tirthgarh	96.10
15.	Goa	Coastal Circuit 2016-17	Development of Sinquerim-Baga, Anjuna-Vagator, Morjim-Keri, Aguada Fort and Aguada Jail	97.65
16.	Goa	Coastal Circuit 2017-18	Development of Coastal Circuit II: Rua De Orum Creek - Dona Paula -Colva - Benaulim	99.35
17.	Gujarat	Heritage Circuit 2016-17	Development of Ahmedabad- Rajkot- Porbandar – Bardoli- Dandi	59.17
18.	Gujarat	Heritage Circuit 2016-17	Development of Vadnagar- Modhera	91.12
19.	Gujarat	Buddhist Circuit 2017-18	Development of Junagadh- Gir Somnath- Bharuch- Kutch- Bhavnagar- Rajkot- Mehsana	26.68
20.	Haryana	Krishna Circuit 2016-17	Development of Tourism Infrastructures at places related to Mahabharata in Kurukshetra	77.39
21.	Himachal Pradesh	Himalayan Circuit 2016-17	Development of Himalayan Circuit: Kiarighat, Shimla, Hatkoti, Manali, Kangra, Dharamshala, Bir, Palampur, Chamba	68.34
22.	Jammu & Kashmir	Himalayan Circuit 2016-17	Development of Jammu-Srinagar-Pahalgam- Bhagwati Nagar-Anantnag-Salamabad Uri-Kargil- Leh	77.33
23.	Jammu & Kashmir	Himalayan Circuit 2016-17	Development of Tourist Facilities at Jammu-Rajouri- Shopian-Pulwama.	81.60
24.	Jammu & Kashmir	Himalayan Circuit 2016-17	Development of Tourist Facilities - Construction of Assets in lieu of those Destroyed in Floods in 2014 under PM Development Package	90.43
25.	Jammu & Kashmir	Himalayan Circuit 2016-17	Development of Tourist facilities at Mantalai and Sudhmahadev	91.99
26.	Jammu & Kashmir	Himalayan Circuit 2016-17	Development of Tourist facilities at Anantnag- Pulwama-Kishtwar-Pahalgam-Zanskar Padum - Daksum - Ranjit Sagar Dam	86.39

27.	Jammu & Kashmir	Himalayan Circuit 2016-17	Development of Tourist Facilities at Gulmarg-Baramulla- Kupwara- Kargil - Leh	91.84
28.	Jharkhand	Eco Circuit 2018-19	Development of Eco Tourism circuit: Dalma- Betla National park- Mirchaiya- Netarhat	30.44
29.	Kerala	Eco Circuit 2015-16	Development of Pathanamthitta- Gavi- Vagamon- Thekkady	64.08
30.	Kerala	Spiritual Circuit 2016-17	Development of Sabarimala - Erumeli-Pampa-Sannidhanam	46.54
31.	Kerala	Spiritual Circuit 2016-17	Development of Sree Padmanabha Arnamula	78.08
32.	Kerala	Rural Circuit 2018-19	Development of Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism Project	57.35
33.	Kerala	Spiritual Circuit 2018-19	Development Sivagiri Sree Narayana Guru Ashram- Arruvipuram- Kunnumpara Sree Subrahmania- Chembazhanthi Sree Narayana Gurukulam	66.42
34.	Madhya Pradesh	Wildlife Circuit 2015-16	Development of Wildlife Circuit at Panna- Mukundpur- Sanjay- Dubri-Bandhavgarh- Kanha- Mukki- Pench	92.10
35.	Madhya Pradesh	Buddhist Circuit 2016-17	Development of Sanchi-Satna-Rewa-Mandsaur-Dhar	74.02
36.	Madhya Pradesh	Heritage Circuit 2016-17	Development of Gwalior – Orchha – Khajuraho – Chanderi – Bhimbetka – Mandu	89.82
37.	Madhya Pradesh	Eco Circuit 2017-18	Development of Gandhisagar Dam- Mandleshwar Dam- Omkareshwar Dam- Indira Sagar Dam- Tawa Dam- Bargi Dam- Bheda Ghat- Bansagar Dam- Ken River	93.76
38.	Maharashtra	Coastal Circuit 2015-16	Development of Sindhudurg Coastal Circuit - Sagareshwar, Tarkarli, Vijaydurg (Beach & Creek), Mitbhav	19.06
39.	Maharashtra	Spiritual Circuit 2018-19	Development of Waki- Adasa- Dhapewada- Paradsingha- Telankhandi- Girad	45.47
40.	Manipur	North-East Circuit 2015-16	Development of Tourist Circuit in Manipur: Imphal-Khongjom	72.23
41.	Manipur	Spiritual Circuit 2016-17	Development of Shri Govindajee Temple, Shri Bijoy Govindajee Temple – Shri Gopinath Temple – Shri Bungshibodon Temple – Shri Kaina Temple	45.34

42.	Meghalaya	North East Circuit 2016-17	Development of Umium (Lake View), U Lum Sohpetbneng-Mawdiangdiang – Orchid Lake Resort	99.13
43.	Meghalaya	North East Circuit 2018-19	Development of West Khasi Hills (Nongkhlaw-KremTiro – Khudoi & Kohmang Falls – Khri River-Mawthadraishan, Shillong), Jaintia Hills (Krang Suri Falls- Shyrmang- Iooksi), Garo Hills (Nokrek Reserve, Katta Beel, Siju Caves)	84.97
44.	Mizoram	North East Circuit 2015-16	Development of Thenzawl & South Zote, District Serchhip and Reiek.	92.26
45.	Mizoram	Eco Circuit 2016-17	Development of Eco-Adventure Circuit Aizawl - Rawpuichhip – Khawhphawp – Lengpui – Chatlang-Sakawrhmutuaitlang - Muthee – Beratlawng -Tuirial Airfield – Hmuifang	66.37
46.	Nagaland	Tribal Circuit 2015-16	Development of Tribal Circuit Peren- Kohima- Wokha	97.36
47.	Nagaland	Tribal Circuit 2016-17	Development of Mokokchung-Tuensang-Mon	98.14
48.	Odisha	Coastal Circuit 2016-17	Development of Gopalpur, Barkul, Satapada and Tampara	70.82
49.	Puducherry	Coastal Circuit 2015-16	Development of Dubrayapet – Arikamedu – Veerampattinam – Chunnambar – Nallavadu/Narambai – Manapet- Kalapet – Puducherry - Yanam	58.44
50.	Puducherry	Heritage Circuit 2017-18	Development of Franco- Tamil Village, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam	49.44
51.	Puducherry	Spiritual Circuit 2017-18	Development of Spiritual Circuit in Puducherry	34.96
52.	Punjab	Heritage Circuit 2018-19	Development of Anandpur Sahib - Fatehgarh Sahib - Chamkaur Sahib - Ferozpur - Khatkar Kalan – Kalanour - Patiala	85.32
53.	Rajasthan	Desert Circuit 2015-16	Development of Sambhar Lake Town and Other Destinations	50.01
54.	Rajasthan	Krishna Circuit 2016-17	Development of Govind Dev ji temple (Jaipur), Khatu Shyam Ji (Sikar) and Nathdwara (Rajsamand)	75.80
55.	Rajasthan	Spiritual Circuit 2016-17	Development of Spiritual Circuit– 'Development of Churu (Salasar Balaji)-Jaipur (Shri Samodke Balaji, Ghatke Balaji, Bandheke Balaji)- Viratnagar (Bijak, Jainnasiya, Ambika Temple)- Bharatpur (Kaman	87.05

			Region)- Dholpur (Muchkund) - Mehndipur Balaji-Chittorgarh (Sanwaliyaji)	
56.	Rajasthan	Heritage Circuit 2017-18	Development of Heritage Circuit Development of Rajsamand (Kumbhalgarh Fort) - Jaipur (Facade Illumination in Jaipur and Nahargarh Fort) -Jhalawar (Gagron Fort) - Chittorgarh (Chittorgarh Fort) – Jaisalmer (Jaisalmer Fort) - Hanumangarh (Gogamedi) - Udaipur (Pratap Gaurav Kendra) - Dholpur (Bagh-I-Nilofar and Purani Chawani) - Nagaur (Meera Bai Smarak, Merta) - Tonk (Sunehri Kothi)	70.61
57.	Sikkim	North East Circuit 2015-16	Development of Tourist Circuit linking Rangpo (entry) – Rorathang- Aritar- Phadamchen- Nathang- Sherathang- Tsongmo- Gangtok-Phodong- Mangan- Lachung-Yumthang- Lachen- Thangu-Gurudongmer- Mangan- Gangtok-TuminLingee- Singtam (exit)	98.05
58.	Sikkim	North East Circuit 2016-17	Development of Tourist Circuit Linking Singtam– Maka- Temi-BermoikTokel- Phongia- Namchi – Jorhang- Okharey- Sombaria-Daramdin- Jorethang-Melli (Exit)	95.32
59.	Tamil Nadu	Coastal Circuit 2016-17	Development of (Chennai- Mamamallapuram – Rameshwaram – Manpadu – Kanyakumari)	73.13
60.	Telangana	Eco Circuit 2015-16	Development of Eco Tourism Circuit in Mahaboobnagar district	91.62
61.	Telangana	Tribal Circuit 2016-17	Development of Mulugu-Laknavaram- Medavaram- Tadvai- Damaravi- Mallur- Bogatha Waterfalls	79.87
62.	Telangana	Heritage Circuit 2017-18	Development of Qutub Shahi Heritage Park- Paigah Tombs- Hayat Bakshi Mosque- Raymond's Tomb	96.90
63.	Tripura	North East Circuit 2015-16	Development of Agartala - Sipahijala - Melaghar - Udaipur - Amarpur- Tirthamukh- Mandirghat– Dumboor- NarikelKunja- Gandachara– Ambassa	82.85
64.	Tripura	North East Circuit 2018-19	Development of Surma Cherra- Unakoti- Jampui Hills- Gunabati - Bhunaneshwari- Neermahal- Boxanagar- Chottakhola- Pilak- Avangchaarra	44.83
65.	Uttar Pradesh	Buddhist Circuit 2016-17	Development of Srawasti, Kushinagar, & Kapilwastu	87.89
66.	Uttar Pradesh	Ramayana Circuit 2016-17	Development of Chitrakoot and Shringverpur	69.45
67.	Uttar Pradesh	Spiritual Circuit 2016-17	Development of Ahar-Aligarh-Kasganj-Sarosi (Unnao)-Pratapgarh- Kausambi-Mirzapur- Gorakhpur-Domariyaganj-Basti-Barabanki- Azamgarh-Kairana- Baghpat- Shahjahanpur	71.91

68.	Uttar Pradesh	Spiritual Circuit 2016-17	Development of Bijnor- Meerut- Kanpur- Kanpur Dehat- Banda- Ghazipur- Salempur- Ghosi- Balia- Ambedkar Nagar- Aligarh- Fatehpur- Deoria- Mahoba- Sonbhadra- Chandauli- Mishrikh- Bhadohi	67.51
69.	Uttar Pradesh	Heritage Circuit 2016-17	Development of Kalinjar Fort (Banda)- Maghar Dham (Sant Kabir Nagar)- Chauri Chaura, Shaheed Sthal (Fatehpur)- Mahuar shaheed Sthal (Ghosi)- Shaheed Smarak (Meerut)	36.65
70.	Uttar Pradesh	Ramayana Circuit 2017-18	Development of Ayodhya	127.21
71.	Uttar Pradesh	Spiritual Circuit 2018-19	Development of Jewar-Dadri-Sikandrabad-Noida-Khurja-Banda	12.03
72.	Uttar Pradesh	Spiritual Circuit 2018-19	Development of Gorakhnath Temple (Gorakhpur), Devipattan Temple (Balrampur) and Vatvashni Temple (Domariyagunj)	18.30
73.	Uttarakhand	Eco Circuit 2015-16	Integrated Development of Eco-Tourism, Adventure Sports, and Associated Tourism Related Infrastructure for Development of Tehri Lake & Surroundings as New Destination-District Tehri	69.17
74.	Uttarakhand	Heritage Circuit 2016-17	Integrated Development of Heritage Circuit in Kumaon Region - Katarmal -Jogeshwar-Baijnath-Devidhura	76.32
75.	West Bengal	Coastal Circuit 2015-16	Development of Beach Circuit: Udaipur- Digha-Shankarpur- Tajpur- Mandarmani- Fraserganj-Bakkhlai- Henry Island	67.99
76.	-	Wayside Amenities 2018-19	Development of Wayside Amenities in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar at Varanasi-Gaya; Kushinagar-Gaya-Kushinagar in collaboration with MoRTH	17.50
