

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †3674
ANSWERED ON 11.08.2025**

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN CHITRAKOOT

†3674. SMT. KRISHNA DEVI SHIVSHANKAR PATEL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the targets of the current financial year's action plan for tourism development in Chitrakoot, a prominent pilgrimage site in the Banda Lok Sabha Constituency;**
- (b) whether the Government is aware that the key mythological and historical sites such as Kalinjar Fort, Bhuragadh Fort, Madfa Fort and Jama Masjid in Banda district under the Archaeological Society of India (ASI) losing their existence due to lack of maintenance;**
- (c) if so, the details of the steps taken/being taken for their preservation and conservation;**
- (d) whether Banda and Chitrakoot districts are the least developed districts from tourism point of view; and**
- (e) if so, the details of the major tourism development schemes proposed for Banda and Chitrakoot districts in near future?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (e): Development and promotion of tourist destinations and tourism products is primarily undertaken by the respective State Government/ Union Territory (UT) Administration.

However, the Ministry of Tourism through its central sector schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan (SD)', 'Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0)', 'Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)' – a sub-scheme of Swadesh Darshan and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' provides financial assistance to the State Governments / Union Territory Administrations for development of tourism infrastructure of the country. The financial assistance under these

schemes is provided in consultation with states, subject to receipt of project proposals from the State Governments/UT Administrations, its assessment, availability of funds etc.

The Ministry of Tourism as part of its Swadesh Darshan scheme sanctioned a project 'Development of Chitrakoot and Shringverpur' in 2016-17 under Ramayana Circuit for Rs.69.45 Crore in Uttar Pradesh. Recognizing the importance of Chitrakoot, the Ministry in 2023-24 has sanctioned the project 'Spiritual Experience at Chitrakoot' for Rs.27.21 Crore in Madhya Pradesh under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme.

Further, State Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that it has implemented multiple development works in Chitrakoot and Banda and has established 'UP Chitrakoot Dham Teerth Vikas Parishad' for consolidated development of Chitrakoot.

Further, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) informed that it takes up conservation and maintenance work of 25 protected monuments and sites in Chitrakoot including provision of amenities like drinking water, toilet blocks, pathways and landscaping etc. Conservation and maintenance of monuments and archaeological sites is a continuous process and is taken up as per the need of monuments and availability of resources.
