

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4031
ANSWERED ON 18.08.2025**

EFFORTS FOR TRIBAL COMMUNITIES IN TRIPURA

4031.SMT. KRITI DEVI DEBBARMAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the efforts being made by the Government to involve tribal communities in Tripura in the tourism sector, particularly through initiatives focused on tribal heritage, eco-tourism and wildlife tourism;**
- (b) the details of the steps taken/being taken to promote homestays, local guide services, and the sale of handicrafts to ensure that the benefits of tourism reach the grassroots level; and**
- (c) the manner in which the Government is working to make tourism a major driver of local economic development, thereby creating sustainable livelihoods for these communities in Tripura?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): Development and promotion of tourist destinations and tourism products, including wildlife, tribal, and heritage tourism, is primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism complements these efforts through its Central Sector Schemes—‘Swadesh Darshan (SD)’, Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD 2.0), ‘Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)’ under Swadesh Darshan, ‘Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)’, and ‘Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development’ (ACA). Financial assistance is provided under these schemes subject to the availability of funds, adherence to scheme guidelines, and submission of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) by the State Governments/UT Administrations.

In addition, under the ‘Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment’ (SASCI) initiative, the Government of India has also extended financial assistance for the development of tourism projects.

As per guidelines issued by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the Ministry of Tourism has earmarked 4.3% of the total scheme outlay i.e. ₹103 crores under the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) component of the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, which includes ₹88 crores under the Tribal Area Sub Plan and ₹15 crores under the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PM-JUGA). This dedicated head of expenditure ensures focused investment in Scheduled Tribes-dominated regions, facilitating cultural preservation economic upliftment, and inclusive tourism growth. Projects sanctioned under the Tribal Circuit theme specifically aim to enhance visibility of tribal heritage and integrate tribal communities into the tourism value chain, thereby contributing to sustainable and regionally balanced development.

The Swadesh Darshan Scheme, launched in 2014–15, initially identified 15 thematic circuits for development, including the Eco-tourism, Wildlife, and Tribal Circuits as key themes. Projects sanctioned under the Tribal Circuit aim to enhance the visibility of tribal heritage and integrate tribal communities into the tourism value chain, contributing to sustainable and regionally balanced development.

The details of the circuits sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan Scheme in the country including in the state of Tripura is annexed as Annexure - I.

In addition to infrastructure development, the Ministry has undertaken targeted interventions for livelihood enhancement in tribal areas, such as the ‘Development of Homestays in Tribal Areas’ under PM-JUGA. This initiative aims to support the creation of 1,000 homestays in tribal areas, with financial assistance of up to ₹5 lakh for village community requirements, ₹5 lakh for constructing two new rooms per household, and ₹3 lakh for renovating existing rooms, along with provisions for technical training and upskilling of homestay owners. These measures are intended to promote sustainable tourism and address systemic challenges in tourism-linked livelihood generation. As of date, no funds have been released under the PM-JUGA Homestay initiative.

Fee exemption is given to SC and ST Candidates under Incredible India Tourist Facilitator (IITF) certification programme - a digital initiative conducted by the Ministry that aims at creating an online learning platform with an objective of creating pool of well trained and professional

Tourist Facilitators and Tourist Guides across the country. The system provides basic, advanced (heritage and adventure), spoken language and refresher courses for candidates.

Ministry of Tourism as part of its ongoing endeavour, promotes various tourism destinations and products of India in a holistic manner, through various initiatives including promotional events, assistance to State Governments for organising fairs and festivals, participation in exhibitions, websites, social media etc.

Details of fairs and festivals supported by Ministry of Tourism under DPPH scheme for last five years in the state of Tripura is annexed as Annexure- II.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4031 ANSWERED ON 18.08.2025 REGARDING EFFORTS FOR TRIBAL COMMUNITIES IN TRIPURA RAISED BY SMT. KRITI DEVI DEBBARMAN

The list of the projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan scheme:-

S. No.	State/UT	Circuit / Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned (in ₹ Crore)
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	Development of Tezpur – Majuli – Sibsagar	90.98

		2016-17		
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 2017-18	Development of Bhitiharwa- Chandrahia- Turkaulia	44.27
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	Development of Tourism	77.39

		Circuit 2016-17	Infrastructures at places related to Mahabharata in Kurukshetra	
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	Development of Sabarimala - Erumeli-Pampa-Sannidhanam	46.54

		2016-17		
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	Development of Shri Govindajee Temple, Shri Bijoy Govindajee	45.34

		2016-17	Temple – Shri Gopinath Temple – Shri Bungshibodon Temple – Shri Kaina Temple	
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	Development of Franco- Tamil Village, Karaikal, Mahe and	49.44

		2017-18	Yanam	
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 Region)- Dholpur (Muchkund) - Mehndipur Balaji- Chittorgarh (Sanwaliyaji)	87.05
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-Nilofer and Purani Chawani) - Nagaur (Meera Bai Smarak, Merta) - Tonk (Sunehri Kothi)	70.61
57.	Sikkim	North East Circuit	Development of Tourist Circuit linking Rangpo (entry) – Rorathang- Aritar- Phadamchen-	98.05

		2015-16	Nathang-Sherathang- Tsongmo- Gangtok-Phodong- Mangan- Lachung-Yumthang- Lachen- Thangu-Gurudongmer- Mangan- Gangtok-TuminLingee- Singtam (exit)	
58.	Sikkim	North East Circuit 2016-17	Development of Tourist Circuit Linking Singtam- Maka- Temi- BermoikTokel- Phongia- Namchi -Jorthang- 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 (Domariyaganj)	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	Integrated Development of Heritage Circuit in Kumaon	76.32

		2016-17	Region - Katarmal -Jogeshwar-Baijnath-Devidhura	
75.	West Bengal	Coastal Circuit 2015-16	Development of Beach Circuit: Udaipur- Digha- Shankarpur-Tajpur- Mandarmani-Fraserganj-Bakkhilai- 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
Total Amount				5290.33

Note: All the above projects are reported physically completed except the project mentioned at Sl. No. 33.

ANNEXURE - II

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4031 ANSWERED ON 18.08.2025 REGARDING EFFORTS FOR TRIBAL COMMUNITIES IN TRIPURA RAISED BY SMT. KRITI DEVI DEBBARMAN

Details of fairs and festivals supported by Ministry of Tourism under DPPH scheme for last five years is as follows:

(Rs. In lakhs)

Name of state	Year	Name of Fairs & Festivals	Amount sanctioned
Tripura	2020-21	Bharat Bangla Festival	25.00
	2022-23	Neermahal Festival	10.00
		Diwali Festival	5.00
		Chabimura Festival	5.00
	2023-24	Neermahal Festival	9.80
		Diwali Festival	9.55
		Chabimura Festival	3.00
	2024-25	Diwali Festival	20.00
		Chabimura & Tirthamukh Festival	12.00
		Ashokastami Festival	5.00
		Chapchar Kut Festival	5.00
