

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.622**  
ANSWERED ON 24.07.2025

**HERITAGE & CULTURAL SITES IN GUJARAT AND MAHARASHTRA**

622 DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI:  
SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI:

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

- (a) whether Government has identified historic and cultural locations in Gujarat & Maharashtra under the Swadesh Darshan or PRASHAD schemes for integrated tourism development;
- (b) if so, the details of projects approved, including names of sites, funds allocated, and expected timelines for completion;
- (c) whether Government is coordinating with Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to ensure that tourism promotion efforts do not compromise heritage preservation; and
- (d) the specific steps taken to promote local handicrafts, folk arts, and traditional cultural festivals in heritage clusters of Gujarat and Pune, with a view to strengthening community- based tourism and cultural livelihoods?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): 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)’ schemes complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development by extending financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations subject to availability of funds, adherence to scheme guidelines, and submission of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) by the State Governments. The Ministry of Tourism under the above-mentioned schemes has provided financial assistance to the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra for development of tourism projects that includes historic and cultural locations in the states and has assigned the completion date as 31.03.2026. Details of the projects sanctioned in the above-mentioned schemes in the State of Maharashtra and Gujarat is **annexed**.

The Ministry of Tourism and the concerned State Governments also regularly co-ordinate with Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) on various issues pertaining to project design and implementation including requisite permissions.

The Ministry of Tourism as part of its ongoing promotional activities regularly promotes various tourism destinations and products of the country including Cultural and Community based tourism in the international and domestic markets through social media, promotional websites, events etc.

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## ANNEXURE

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.622 ANSWERED ON 24.07.2025 REGARDING HERITAGE & CULTURAL SITES IN GUJARAT AND MAHARASHTRA RAISED BY DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI AND SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI**

List of projects sanctioned in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra under Swadesh Darshan, Swadesh Darshan 2.0, Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD), a sub-scheme of Swadesh Darshan scheme and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' schemes.

**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)	Physical status / completion timeline
1.	Gujarat	Heritage Circuit 2016-17	Development of Ahmedabad- Rajkot- Porbandar –Bardoli- Dandi	59.17	Physically Complete
2.	Gujarat	Heritage Circuit 2016-17	Development of Vadnagar- Modhera	91.12	Physically Complete
3.	Gujarat	Buddhist Circuit 2017-18	Development of Junagadh- Gir Somnath- Bharuch-Kutch- Bhavnagar- Rajkot- Mehsana	26.68	Physically Complete
4.	Maharashtra	Coastal Circuit 2015-16	Development of Sindhudurg Coastal Circuit - Sagareshwar, Tarkarli, Vijaydurg (Beach & Creek), Mitbhav	19.06	Physically Complete
5.	Maharashtra	Spiritual Circuit 2018-19	Development of Waki- Adasa- Dhapewada- Paradsingha- Telankhandi- Girad	45.47	Physically Complete

**List of sanctioned projects under Swadesh Darshan 2.0:-**

S No.	State	Year of Sanction	Destination	Name of the Experience	Sanctioned Cost (₹ Crore)	Physical status / completion timeline
1	Maharashtra	2023-24	Pune	Shivrushti Historical Theme Park- Phase 3	76.22	31.03.2026

**List of sanctioned projects under Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD), a sub-scheme of Swadesh Darshan scheme**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Year of Sanction</b>	<b>Name of the Project</b>	<b>Sanctioned Cost (₹ Crore)</b>	<b>Physical status / completion timeline</b>
1	Gujarat	2024-25	Transformation of sharmishtha Lake: Light & culture at Vadnagar	17.29	31.03.2026
2	Gujarat	2024-25	The Sacred Ocean Retreat at Harsiddhi Shore, Porbandar	24.66	31.03.2026
3	Gujarat	2024-25	THOL: Transformative Tourism' Harmonious Sustainability, Optimized Skilling' Leading Technology	9.96	31.03.2026
4	Maharashtra	2024-25	Development of Ahmednagar Fort	25.00	31.03.2026

**List of projects sanctioned under PRASHAD Scheme:-**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Sanction Year</b>	<b>Sanction Amount (in ₹ Crore)</b>	<b>Physical status / completion timeline</b>
1	Gujarat	Development of Dwarka	2016-17	10.46	Physically Complete
2	Gujarat	Development of Pilgrimage Amenities at Somnath	2016-17	45.36	Physically Complete
3	Gujarat	Development of Promenade at Somnath	2018-19	47.12	Physically Complete
4	Gujarat	Development of Pilgrimage Facilities at Ambaji Temple, Banaskantha, Gujarat	2022-23	50.00	31.03.2026
5	Maharashtra	Development of Trimbakeshwar, Nashik	2017-18	45.41	31.03.2026

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