GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF TOURISM

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1183 ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025

CHALLENGE BASED DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT UNDER SDS 2.0

1183. SHRI ESWARASAMY K:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the proposals received and sanctioned under the Challenge-based Destination Development component of Swadesh Darshan 2.0, year and State/UT-wise;
- (b) the criteria adopted for the selection of destinations and the process for evaluating the submitted proposals;
- (c) the total financial allocation and amount released for projects sanctioned under this component since its inception; and
- (d) whether any steps have been taken to ensure convergence with other central schemes and promote destination sustainability and if so, the details thereof?

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 SD2.0, 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' and 'Assistance to Central Agencies (ACA) for Tourism Infrastructure Development' complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development by extending financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations/Central Agencies; subject to adherence to scheme guidelines, submission of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs), availability of funds, inter-se priority etc.

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

Under the Challenge-Based Destination Development (CBDD) a subscheme of Swadesh Darshan 2.0, proposals are submitted by the concerned SGs/UTAs in response to notifications issued by the Ministry. Selection of destinations under the CBDD component is carried out as per the criteria notified in the scheme guidelines. These criteria include parameters relating to destination readiness, tourism potential, institutional arrangements, community engagement, environmental considerations and overall coherence of the proposal. Evaluation of proposals is undertaken through the structured assessment process defined in the guidelines.

Under the scheme, Ministry encourages the SG/UT to adopt convergence across connectivity, civic infrastructure, local mobility, skill development, products and experience being developed with relevant initiatives of Central Ministries/Departments or the concerned SG/UT at the destinations.

The details of the projects sanctioned under the CBDD scheme in the country along with sanction and authorized amount since its inception is annexed.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1183 ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025 REGARDING CHALLENGE BASED DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT COMPONENT UNDER SDS 2.0 RAISED BY SHRI ESWARASAMY K

Details of Project sanctioned under Challenge Based Destination Development scheme:

(Amount in ₹Crore)

| | | 1 | 1 | | , | in Colore |
|-----|----------------------|----------|--|--|---|------------|
| S. | State/UT | Year of | Name of the | Category | Sanctioned | Amount |
| No. | | Sanction | Project | | Amount | Authorized |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 2024-25 | Ahobilam-A spiritual | Spiritual Tourism | 25.00 | 2.50 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 2024-25 | Odyssey Enriching Buddhist Heritage and Cultural Experiences | Culture & Heritage | 25.00 | 2.50 |
| 3 | Arunachal | 2024-25 | at Nagarjuna Sagar Bichom Dam | Ecotouri | 9.90 | 0.99 |
| | Pradesh | | Adventure & Eco-Tourism Project | sm and Amrit Dharohar Sites | | |
| 4 | Arunachal Pradesh | 2024-25 | Kibhito Frontier Tourism - Gateway to Serenity | Vibrant Village Program me | 4.96 | 0.50 |
| 5 | Assam | 2024-25 | Panidhing Bird Sanctuary, Sivasagar | Ecotouri sm and Amrit Dharohar Sites | 9.99 | 1.00 |
| 6 | Bihar | 2024-25 | Development of Tourist Facilities at Sonepur | Culture & Heritage | 24.29 | 2.43 |

| | | | Mela Ground, Saran | | | |
|----|---------------------|---------|---|--|-------|------|
| 7 | Chhattisgarh | 2024-25 | Development of MayaliBagic ha as Eco Tourism Destination | Ecotouri sm and Amrit Dharohar Sites | 9.97 | 1.00 |
| 8 | Goa | 2024-25 | Beautification and Development of Harvalem Waterfall at Mayem Village | Dharohar | 9.81 | 0.98 |
| 9 | Gujarat | 2024-25 | Transformati on of sharmishtha Lake: Light & culture at Vadnagar | Culture & Heritage | 17.29 | 1.73 |
| 10 | Gujarat | 2024-25 | The Sacred Ocean Retreat at Harsiddhi Shore, Porbandar | Spiritual Tourism | 24.66 | 2.47 |
| 11 | Gujarat | 2024-25 | THOL: Transformati ve Tourism' Harmonious Sustainabilit y, Optimized Skilling' Leading Technology | Ecotouri sm and Amrit Dharohar Sites | 9.96 | 1.00 |
| 12 | Himachal Pradesh | 2024-25 | Tourism Infrastructur e Development at Kaza | Culture & Heritage | 24.82 | 2.48 |

| 13 | Himachal Pradesh | 2024-25 | Tourism Infrastructur e Development at Rakchham, Chhitkul | Vibrant Village Program me | 4.96 | 0.50 |
|----|---------------------|---------|---|--|-------|------|
| 14 | Jharkhand | 2024-25 | Tourism Infrastructur e Development at Ramrekha Dham, Simdega | Spiritual Tourism | 18.87 | 1.89 |
| 15 | Kerala | 2024-25 | Thalassery: The Spiritual Nexus | Spiritual Tourism | 25.00 | 2.50 |
| 16 | Kerala | 2024-25 | Varkala- Dakshin Kashi | Culture & Heritage | 25.00 | 2.50 |
| 17 | Ladakh | 2024-25 | Advancing Mushkoh as a Sustainable Tourism Hub: Integrating wildlife Sightings and community progress | Ecotouri sm and Amrit Dharohar Sites | 9.82 | 0.98 |
| 18 | Madhya Pradesh | 2024-25 | Medieval Splendor 2.0, Orchha | Spiritual Tourism | 25.00 | 2.50 |
| 19 | Maharashtra | 2024-25 | Development of Ahmednagar Fort | Culture & Heritage | 25.00 | 2.50 |
| 20 | Manipur | 2024-25 | Development of Ancient capital of Manipur, | Culture & Heritage | 24.69 | 2.47 |

| | | | LangthabalK onug | | | |
|----|------------|---------|--|--------------------------|-------|------|
| 21 | Meghalaya | 2024-25 | Mawphlang cultural & Heritage centre | Culture & Heritage | 24.87 | 2.49 |
| 22 | Meghalaya | 2024-25 | Nartiang Spiritual & Cultural Centre | Spiritual Tourism | 24.87 | 2.49 |
| 23 | Nagaland | 2024-25 | Soulful Trails: The Impur Heritage Experience, Impur Village | | 24.94 | 2.49 |
| 24 | Nagaland | 2024-25 | Development of wings over Doyang: An Eco-Tourism Haven' Doyang Reservoir | Ecotouri sm and | 10.00 | 1.00 |
| 25 | Puducherry | 2024-25 | Development of White Town | | 22.19 | 2.22 |
| 26 | Punjab | 2024-25 | Cultural and Heritage Strech at Hussainiwal a Border, Ferozepur | & Heritage | 25.00 | 2.50 |
| 27 | Punjab | 2024-25 | Heritage street -A Symbol of peace and Harmony at Sri Anandpur Sahib, Rupnagar | Spiritual Tourism | 24.90 | 2.49 |
| 28 | Sikkim | 2024-25 | Echoes of Valor: The | | 5.00 | 0.50 |

| | | | Gnathang Valley Experience," Gnathang Village | Program me | | |
|----|------------------|---------|---|-----------------------------|-------|------|
| 29 | Sikkim | 2024-25 | Kabi Chronicles: A journey through Unity and Heritage, Kabi, Mangan | Spiritual Tourism | 24.96 | 2.50 |
| 30 | Tamil Nadu | 2024-25 | Iconic Transformati on of Rameswara m | Spiritual Tourism | 20.01 | 2.00 |
| 31 | Telangana | 2024-25 | Digital Experience Centre at Bhuddhavan am in Nalgonda | Culture & Heritage | 24.85 | 2.48 |
| 32 | Telangana | 2024-25 | Development of Eco- Tourism Project at Nizam Sagar, Kamareddy | sm and Amrit Dharohar | 9.98 | 1.00 |
| 33 | Uttar Pradesh | 2024-25 | Development of Cultural Landscape at Mahoba | & | 24.98 | 2.50 |
| 34 | Uttarakhand | 2024-25 | Development of Jadung Festive Ground', Jadung | | 4.99 | 0.50 |
| 35 | Uttarakhand | 2024-25 | Development of Kainchidham | Spiritual Tourism | 17.60 | 1.76 |

| 36 | Uttarakhand | 2024-25 | campus, Kainchidham Mana Haat project | | 4.99 | 0.50 |
|----|-------------|---------|--|--|------|-------|
| | Total | | | | | 64.81 |
