

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1223
ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025**

IMPROVEMENT OF TOURIST AMENITIES AT BRIHADEESWARA TEMPLE

1223. SHRI MURASOLI S:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the need for modern visitor management systems, footfall regulation and improved tourist amenities at the Brihadeeswara Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site receiving a high volume of domestic and international visitors;**
- (b) the reasons for the absence of centrally supported initiatives such as digital visitor information systems, guided-tour infrastructure, multi-lingual interpretation centres and heritage-safety protocols at the said temple while similar facilities are being prioritised at such heritage destinations in other parts of the country;**
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to introduce centrally supported schemes including visitor management, emergency-response infrastructure and structured heritage interpretation modules at the said temple and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to ensure uniform national standards for visitor safety, heritage interpretation, and digital tourism services at all World Heritage Sites, including the Brihadeeswara Temple?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): The development of tourist destinations and products is primarily undertaken by the respective State Governments (SGs) and Union Territories

(UTs). The Ministry of Tourism, through its ongoing Central Sector Schemes, namely Swadesh Darshan (SD), Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) and Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development (ACA), supplements the efforts of the State Governments/ Union Territories (UTs) and Central Agencies by extending financial assistance for tourism infrastructure development.

Project proposals under these schemes are formulated and submitted by the concerned State Governments/ Union Territories (UTs)/ Central Agencies. The proposals received for infrastructure development are examined and considered on the basis of the merit of the project, availability of funds, and adherence to the prescribed scheme guidelines.

Under the ACA Scheme, the Ministry has sanctioned a project titled “Illumination and Allied Works at Gangaikonda Cholapuram Temple, District Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu” at a total cost of Rs.11.47 crore. The component-wise details of the project are annexed.

Under the aforementioned schemes, tourism-related infrastructure development is undertaken in an inclusive, integrated, and sustainable manner, with a focus, inter alia, on safety, security, accessibility, and ecological preservation.

Multiple components have been sanctioned under these schemes with the objective of enhancing visitor safety and security, accessibility, digital tourism services, and environmental sustainability. These include, inter alia, ramps, railings, CCTV surveillance systems, public address systems, signages, illumination, sound and light and multimedia laser shows, interpretation centres, queue complexes, and solid waste management systems.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1223 ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025 REGARDING IMPROVEMENT OF TOURIST AMENITIES AT BRIHADEESWARA TEMPLE RAISED BY SHRI MURASOLI S.**

(i) Component-wise details of the project 'Illumination and allied works at Gangaikonda Cholapuram Temple, District – Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu' sanctioned under ACA is as under:

S. No.	COMPONENTS	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)
1	Cost of Light fixtures	5.39
2	Cost of Control Accessories and Electrical Items	1.54
3	Cost of CCTV and Its Accessories	0.46
4	Cost of Miscellaneous Items (Mounting Cage, Installation arrangement using Local Stones, Cable managers etc.)	0.50
5	Subtotal (1 +2+3+4)	7.89
6	O&M Charges @10% for 3 years	0.78
7	Total (5+6)	8.68
8	ITDC Centage (10 % of 7)	0.86
9	Contingency (3% of 7)	0.26
10	DPR Preparation Cost (Lump Sum)	0.10
11	GST (18% of 7)	1.57
12	GRAND TOTAL (7+8+9+10+11)	11.47
