

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.7#
ANSWERED ON 29.01.2026

**INFRASTRUCTURE AND SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS
FOR SIMHASTHA KUMBH MELA**

7# SMT. SUNETRA AJIT PAWAR:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the progress in development of infrastructure and security arrangements for upcoming Simhastha Kumbh Mela 2026-27 to be held in Nasik-Trimbakeshwar;
- (b) whether the Central Government has approved the special financial package requested by the Maharashtra Government, in view of the global significance of this event and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any specific action plan has been prepared for expansion of railway stations, operation of additional trains and development of 'riverfront', considering the large number of devotees; and
- (d) the special steps being taken by Government to promote this grand festival internationally and to facilitate foreign tourists?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.7# ANSWERED ON 29.01.2026 REGARDING INFRASTRUCTURE AND SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR SIMHASTHA KUMBH MELA RAISED BY SMT. SUNETRA AJIT PAWAR

(a): Development of tourist destinations is primarily undertaken by the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration. The Ministry complements the efforts of States/UTs by developing tourism infrastructure through its ongoing schemes of PRASHAD and Swadesh Darshan. This is done in consultation with the State Governments/ UT Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned various tourism infrastructure projects in Nashik the details of which is given below:

| Name of Scheme | Name of the project | Sanctioned cost (Rs. in Crore) |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| PRASHAD | Development of Trimbakeshwar, Nashik | 45.41 |
| Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI Scheme) | Development of RAM-KAL PATH in Nashik | 99.14 |

As per the information received from the State Government of Maharashtra, the Nashik-Trimbakeshwar Kumbh Mela Authority (NTKMA) has been established to plan, coordinate and oversee the preparations for the upcoming Kumbh Mela 2027 in Nashik vide the Maharashtra Government Gazette dated July 10, 2025. For the development of infrastructure and security arrangements the Nashik-Trimbakeshwar Kumbh Mela Authority has accorded administrative sanction for the works amounting to Rs.9,600.30 Crore. Furthermore, in coordination with the Police Department, regular meetings are conducted to ensure proper planning and expansion of essential requirements, including roads, electricity, water supply, ghats and security systems.

(b): No proposal is under consideration of Ministry of Tourism for release of financial assistance for Simhasta Kumbh Mela 2026-27 as no proposal in the prescribed format has been received so far from the State Government of Maharashtra. However, comprehensive infrastructure and development works are undertaken by various Ministries. As per the information received from the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways in preparation for the Kumbh Mela in 2027 it has taken up various projects for easing congestion on various National Highways (NHs) under National Highway Original [NH(O)].

(c): As per the information received from the Ministry of Railways, Indian Railways operates special trains to cater to the extra rush of passengers during peak seasons, festivals, religious

congregations etc. It also augments the loads of existing services keeping in view the pattern of traffic, commercial justification, operational feasibility and availability of resources etc. Further, to upgrade the major railway infrastructure of Nashik and adjoining area in Maharashtra in view of Simhastha Kumbh Mela 2027, a number of works have been taken up by the Ministry of Railways so that more trains can be operated during Simhastha Kumbh. With respect to riverfront development Nashik-Trimbakeshwar Kumbh Mela Authority has granted administrative sanction of Rs.544.19 Crore for the development of riverfront/ ghats at Nashik and Trimbakeshwar.

(d): As informed by the State Government of Maharashtra it endeavors to promote and publicize this grand festival internationally through global advertisement and special initiatives.
