

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.143#
ANSWERED ON 29.01.2026

CULTURAL CORRIDOR UNDER PRASHAD SCHEME

143# SHRI DHAIRYASHIL MOHAN PATIL:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to develop a cultural corridor under the PRASHAD scheme linking Ballaleshwar Temple (Pali), Varad Vinayak Temple (Mahad) and Ganpatipule Temple located in Raigad and Ratnagiri districts;
- (b) if so, the details of projects approved or under consideration; and
- (c) whether central financial assistance is proposed under the PRASHAD schemes for infrastructure development, heritage conservation and pilgrim amenities for this cultural corridor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): The development and promotion of tourist destinations and tourism products, including religious and pilgrimage tourism, is primarily undertaken by the respective State Government/ Union Territory (UT) Administration. The Ministry of Tourism supplements the efforts of the States/UTs by providing financial assistance for the development of tourism infrastructure through its schemes and initiatives, in consultation with the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations.

The Ministry of Tourism under the “Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive” (PRASHAD) aims to enhance the spiritual and pilgrimage experience by holistically developing tourism infrastructure at pilgrimage and heritage sites.

Under the PRASHAD scheme, the Ministry has sanctioned 54 projects in 28 States/UTs at a total estimated cost of ₹1,726.74 crore including 1 project in the State of Maharashtra, namely “Development of Trimbakeshwar”, Nashik, in the year 2017-18 at a cost of ₹45.41 crore.

Submission of proposals by State Governments/UT Administrations seeking financial assistance under PRASHAD scheme is a continuous process. Proposals received from the States/UTs are examined in accordance with the prescribed guidelines, and financial assistance is provided subject to fulfilment of the stipulated conditions and availability of funds.

At present, no proposal for development of a cultural corridor linking Ballaleshwar Temple (Pali), Varad Vinayak Temple (Mahad) and Ganpatipule Temple in Raigad and Ratnagiri districts is under consideration.
