

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1573**  
ANSWERED ON 12.02.2026

**MANAGEMENT OF PILGRIM DESTINATIONS**

1573 SHRI NARHARI AMIN:

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

- (a) the pilgrimage destinations supported under PRASHAD scheme during the last year;
- (b) whether carrying capacity and crowd-flow studies were conducted;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the measures taken to address gaps between safety, sanitation and accessibility;
- (e) whether coordination with State Governments and temple authorities has improved operations;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the outcomes observed during peak pilgrimage seasons?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a): Ministry of Tourism under the “Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive” (PRASHAD) provides financial assistance to the State Governments (SGs) and UT Administrations (UTs) for development of tourism infrastructure at identified religious and heritage sites across the country. During the year 2025, a total of 7 projects were sanctioned under the PRASHAD Scheme the details of which are placed at **Annexure**.

(b) to (c): Carrying capacity and crowd-flow parameters form an integral part of project planning under the PRASHAD Scheme. As per the scheme guidelines, selection of pilgrimage destinations takes into account the carrying capacity of a destination to manage pilgrim inflows.

(d): To address gaps of safety, sanitation and accessibility, key interventions have been sanctioned under PRASHAD projects which includes development of pedestrian pathways, lighting, CCTV surveillance, drinking water facilities, toilets, solid waste management systems, fire fighting, fire alarm, signages among others to ensure a safe and hygienic environment for pilgrims.

(e) to (f): In accordance with the Scheme Guidelines respective State Government /UT administration formulates comprehensive Detailed Project Report (DPR) for projects in consultations with the respective administration, local bodies and other stakeholders. The projects sanctioned under the said scheme are implemented by the State/UT Government concerned. The funding pattern under the Scheme outlines that the 5<sup>th</sup> installment of the project i.e., 5% of the project cost is released after successful operation and maintenance. Further, the infrastructure so created are

handed over to the respective temple shrine/religious trusts through the concerned State Government/ UT administration.

(g): The vital facilities created under the PRASHAD Scheme such as pathways, lighting, drinking water, toilets and access arrangements at the sites help local authorities in managing the movement of pilgrims and in providing essential services during periods of high footfall.

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**ANNEXURE**

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1573 ANSWERED ON 12.02.2026 REGARDING MANAGEMENT OF PILGRIM DESTINATIONS RAISED BY SHRI NARHARI AMIN**

**List of projects sanctioned under PRASHAD Scheme in year 2025**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Sanctioned Year</b>	<b>Sanctioned Cost (₹ in Crore)</b>
1	Bihar	Development of Ambika Bhawani Temple, Saran	March 2025	13.29
2	Karnataka	Development of Renuka Yallama Devi temple	March 2025	18.37
3	Karnataka	Development of Basic Amenities at Papnash Temple, Bidar dist.	March 2025	22.25
4	Mizoram	Development of Basic Amenities under PRASHAD scheme in Vangchhia, Champhai District	March 2025	5.47
5	Puducherry	Development of Pilgrim Facilities & Tourist attractions for Sri Dharbaranyeswara Temple	March 2025	25.94
6	Tamil Nadu	Development of 8 Navagraha Temples	March 2025	40.94
7	Telangana	Development of Basic Amenities at goddess Renuka Yellama Devasthanam	March 2025	4.22

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