

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†426
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026**

DEVELOPMENT OF BISHWANATH GHAT, ASSAM

†426. SHRI RANJIT DUTTA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps for the development of Bishwanath Ghat in Assam which was awarded the title of India's Best Tourism Village in 2023;**
- (b) the details of approved infrastructure and connectivity projects in the area to promote sustainable tourism;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to include Bishwanath Ghat under any specific tourism scheme or circuit such as Swadesh Darshan or PRASHAD;**
- (d) the details of the measures taken/being taken for local employment generation and the conservation of the cultural and natural heritage of Bishwanath Ghat; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (e): The development and promotion of tourist destinations and tourism products is primarily undertaken by the respective State Government/ Union Territory (UT) Administration.

The Ministry of Tourism, through its ongoing Central Sector Schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan (SD)', 'Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD 2.0)', 'Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)' a sub-scheme of Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme, 'Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI)', 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)', 'Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure

Development(ACA)' supplements the efforts of the States/UTs/Central Agencies by providing financial assistance for the development of tourism related infrastructure in consultation with them.

The Ministry of Tourism under these schemes has sanctioned various projects for tourism infrastructure development in the State of Assam, the details of which is at annexure.

Under aforementioned schemes, the Ministry seeks to develop tourism infrastructure in a holistic and sustainable manner with the objective of boosting tourism, conserving local culture, generating employment and strengthening the local economy.

Proposals for seeking financial assistance for the development of the tourism infrastructure are formulated by the concerned State/UT/Central Agency. The proposals received 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, there is no proposal under consideration for the development of Bishwanath Ghat, Assam.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†426 ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF BISHWANATH GHAT, ASSAM RAISED BY SHRI RANJIT DUTTA

List of projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism in the State of Assam:

Scheme	S. No.	Name of Project	Sanction Year	Sanction Cost (₹ in Crore)
Swadesh Darshan 1.0	i.	Development of Manas- Probitora- Nameri- Kaziranga- Dibru- Saikhowa	2015	94.68
	ii.	Development of Tezpur – Majuli – Sibsagar	2017	90.98
		Total Sanction Cost		185.66
Swadesh Darshan 2.0	i.	Kokrajhar Wetland Experience	2024	26.67
	ii.	Reimagining Cinnamara Tea Estate Experience in Jorhat	2024	23.88
		Total Sanction Cost		50.56
Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)	i.	Panidhing Bird Sanctuary, Sivasagar	2025	9.99
		Total Sanction Cost		9.99
PRASHAD	i.	Development of Kamakhya Temple and Pilgrimage Destination in and around Guwahati	2015	29.80
		Total Sanction Cost		29.80
Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI)	i.	Assam State Zoo Cum Botanical Garden in Guwahati	2024	97.12
	ii.	Beautification of Rang Ghar in Sivasagar	2024	94.76
		Total Sanction Cost		191.88
Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development (ACA)	i.	Development of Jetties at 9 main points of embarkation/disembarkation of River Cruize on National Water ways No. 1 & 2	2020	28.03
	ii.	Kamakhya Railway Station	2018	4.96
	iii.	Guwahati Railway Station	2018	4.99
		Total Sanctioned cost		37.98
		Total Central Assistance		505.87