

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*232
ANSWERED ON 09.03.2026**

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN KONASEEMA, ANDHRA PRADESH

***232. SHRI G M HARISH BALAYOGI:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of tourism destinations identified and promoted by the Government in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema district of Andhra Pradesh, category-wise including eco-tourism, river tourism, coastal tourism and cultural heritage tourism;**
- (b) the details of the funds allocated, released and utilised for tourism infrastructure development in the said district under Central tourism schemes and assistance programmes during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;**
- (c) the details of the number of domestic and foreign tourist footfalls recorded in the district during the said period, year-wise; and**
- (d) the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve connectivity, amenities, livelihood-linked tourism and private sector participation in the said district to enhance its tourism potential?**

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 LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*232 ANSWERED ON 09.03.2026 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN KONASEEMA, ANDHRA PRADESH RAISED BY SHRI G M HARISH BALAYOGI

(a) to (d): Development and promotion of tourism is primarily done by the concerned State Government (SG)/UT Administration (UTA). However, Ministry of Tourism under its various schemes such as Swadesh Darshan (SD), Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0), Challenge Based Destination Development- CBDD (an initiative under Swadesh Darshan), Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) etc. provides financial assistance for development of tourism infrastructure and experiences in the country to the SGs/UTAs; on receipt of the project proposals from them, in synergy with the scheme guidelines, Government directions, availability of funds, inter-se priority etc. The details of the projects sanctioned in the state of Andhra Pradesh under SD, which includes development works at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema district, SD2.0, CBDD and PRASHAD schemes is annexed.

Further, Government of India in 2024-25 sanctioned the projects 'Enriching the Fort and Gorge Experience in Gandikota' for Rs.77.91 Crore and 'Akhanda Godavair (Havelok Bridge & Pushkar Ghat) in Raja Mahendrarvarman' for Rs.94.44 Crore in the State of Andhra Pradesh under its initiative for 'Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI)-Development of Iconic Tourist Centres to Global Scale'.

Ministry of Tourism holistically promotes various tourism destinations and products of the country including those in Andhra Pradesh through various promotional tools such as website, events, social media etc.

The details of the domestic and foreign tourist footfalls recorded in the district as informed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh is as under:

Year	Domestic	International	Total
2023	1,22,57,873	403	1,22,58,276
2024	1,16,99,706	469	1,17,00,175
2025	1,44,75,779	525	1,44,76,304

Government of Andhra Pradesh has also informed that it has also taken several steps to enhance tourism potential in Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Konaseema District through improvement of connectivity, tourism amenities, livelihood-based initiatives and promotion of private sector participation. Road connectivity to major tourism destinations in the district is strengthened through National Highway and State Highway networks and regular maintenance and upgradation of tourism infrastructure and visitor facilities are undertaken at key destinations.

Andhra Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation's Haritha Resort at Dindi is maintained and operated to provide quality accommodation, restaurant and tourism services to visitors. To promote community based tourism and local livelihood, Government of Andhra Pradesh has identified more than 150 houses for development as homestays in Konaseema region including holding sensitization programmes and basic training to house owners.

In addition, Government of Andhra Pradesh is encouraging private participation through Andhra Pradesh Tourism 2024-29 policy initiatives, promotion of homestays, boating operations, tourism related services etc. It also organizes multiple events in the district and undertakes social media promotions to encourage tourism.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*232 ANSWERED ON 09.03.2026 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN KONASEEMA, ANDHRA PRADESH RAISED BY SHRI G M HARISH BALAYOGI**

(i) Details of Project sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan Scheme in the State of Andhra Pradesh:

(Amount in ₹Crore)

S. No.	Circuit / Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Sanctioned Cost	Amount Released / Authorized	Amount Utilised
1.	Coastal Circuit 2014-15	Development of Kakinada - Hope Island - Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary - Passarlapudi - Aduru - S Yanam - Kotipally (Includes works sanctioned for Rs. 2.68 Crore at Passarlapudi, Rs. 3.87 Crore at Adurru, 0.57 Crore at S Yanam and 2.06 Crore at Kotipally)	67.83	67.83	67.83
2.	Coastal Circuit 2015-16	Development of Nellore - Pulikat Lake - Ubblamadugu Water Falls - Nelapattu - Kothakoduru - Mypadu - Ramateertham - Iskapalli	49.55	49.55	49.55

3.	Buddhist Circuit 2017-18	Development of Buddhist Circuit: Shalihundam-Bavikonda-Bojjanakonda - Amravati- Anupu	35.24	30.02	30.02
		Total	152.62	147.4	147.4

(ii) Details of Project sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme in the State of Andhra Pradesh:

(Amount in ₹Crore)

S. No.	Year of Sanction	Destination	Name of the Experience	Sanctioned Cost	Amount Authorized for utilization
1.	2024-25	Bapatala	Development of Suryalanka Beach Experience	97.52	9.75
2.	2023-24	Araku-Lambasingi	Borra Cave Experience at Araku	29.88	2.99
			Total	127.4	12.74

(iii) Details of Project sanctioned under Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) Scheme in the State of Andhra Pradesh:

(Amount in ₹Crore)

S. No.	Project Name	Sanction Year	Sanction Amount	Amount Released	Amount Utilised
1.	Development of Amaravati Town, Guntur District as a Tourist Destination	2015-16	27.77	27.77	27.77
2.	Development of Srisailam Temple	2017-18	43.08	43.08	43.08
3.	Sri Varaha Lakshmi Narsimha Swami	2022-23	54.04	27.37	27.37

	VariDevasthanam at Simhachalam in Vishakhapatnam Temple				
4.	Development of Pilgrimage Tourism Infrastructure in Annavaram Temple Town	2024-25	25.33	6.74	0.00
		Total	150.22	104.96	98.22

(iv) Details of Project sanctioned under Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD) Scheme in the State of Andhra Pradesh:

(Amount in ₹Crore)

S. No.	Year of Sanction	Name of the Project	Category	Sanctioned Cost	Amount Authorized for utilization
1.	2024-25	Enriching Buddhist Heritage and Cultural Experiences at Nagarjuna Sagar	Nagarjuna Sagar (Culture & Heritage)	25.00	2.50
2.	2024-25	Development of Abhobilam as a Spiritual Odyssey	Ahobilam Temple (Spiritual Tourism)	24.99	2.50
			Total	49.99	5.00
