

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2565
ANSWERED ON 09.03.2026**

NEW TOURISM PROJECTS IN KERALA

2565. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of new tourism projects sanctioned or approved for the State of Kerala during the last five years and the current year, year, project and district-wise;**
- (b) the details of the total funds allocated, released and utilised for the said projects, year-wise;**
- (c) whether any projects under Swadesh Darshan Scheme, PRASHAD Scheme or other Central tourism initiatives are currently under implementation in Kerala, if so, the details along with the current status thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to sanction new tourism circuits, eco-tourism hubs, cruise tourism infrastructure, heritage conservation projects or digital tourism initiatives in Kerala; and**
- (e) the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote sustainable tourism and employment generation in Kerala through Central assistance?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (e): The Ministry revamped its Swadesh Darshan scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 with the focus to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations and sanctioned 53 projects for Rs.2208.31 Crore in the country including Kerala. The scheme focuses on implementation of sustainable and responsible tourism practices in various projects and initiatives and also encourages adoption of principles of sustainable tourism viz. environmental sustainability, socio-cultural sustainability and economic sustainability including employment generation. Under SD2.0 scheme and Challenge Based Destination Development (an initiative under Swadesh Darshan

scheme), financial assistance for development of tourism infrastructure and experiences in the country is extended to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations on receipt of the project proposals from them, in synergy with the scheme guidelines, Government directions, availability of funds, inter-se priority etc.

Sanctioning of projects under applicable schemes is an ongoing process. A range of components which may enhance tourism facilitation at the destination are considered for sanctioning as per project requirement including those related to sustainability, safety, sanitation, digital initiatives etc.

In addition, the Ministry under its 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) also sanctions projects to the State Governments/UT Administrations for integrated development of identified pilgrimage and heritage destinations.

Details of the projects sanctioned under SD2.0 & CBDD, which are at different stages of implementation and PRASHAD schemes in the state of Kerala is annexed.

Government of India in 2024-25 sanctioned the projects 'Ashtamudi Biodiversity and Eco-recreational Hub in Kollam' for Rs.59.71 Crore and 'Global Gateway to Malabar's Cultural Crucible in Sargaalaya' for Rs.95.34 Crore under its initiative for 'Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI)-Development of Iconic Tourist Centres to Global Scale' and these projects are at implementation stage.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2565 ANSWERED ON 09.03.2026 REGARDING NEW TOURISM PROJECTS IN KERALA RAISED BY SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH****Details of the projects sanctioned under SD2.0, CBDD & PRASHAD schemes in the state of Kerala:-**

Scheme	Year of Sanction	Name of the project	Sanction Amount (Rs. In Crore)	Amount released/ utilized/ authorized for utilization (Rs. In Crore)	Status
Swadesh Darshan 2.0	2024-25	Alappuzha: A Global Water Wonderland	93.18	9.32	Implementation Stage
	2024-25	Enhancement of Tourist Experience at Malampuzha Garden and Leisure Park	75.87	7.59	Do
	2023-24	Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary Experience	13.81	1.38	Do
CBDD	2024-25	Varkala-Dakshin Kashi	25.00	2.50	Do
	2024-25	Thalassery: The Spritiual Nexus	25.00	2.50	Do
PRASHAD	2016-17	Development at Guruvayur Temple	45.19	45.19	Physically complete
