

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3886
ANSWERED ON 16.03.2026**

POST-PANDEMIC RECOVERY IN TOURIST ARRIVALS

3886. DR. D RAVI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Domestic Tourist Visits (DTVs) exceeded 1.65 billion in 2023, reflecting strong post-pandemic recovery, while Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) crossed 9.5 million in 2024 with further growth reported in 2025;**
- (b) the details of tourism infrastructure projects sanctioned and funded under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 and PRASHAD schemes during the years 2023–25, including outlay and completion status, State/UT-wise;**
- (c) whether any impact assessment has been undertaken on employment generation in tourism, which supports over 8 crore direct and indirect jobs and contributes about 7.5 percent of country's GDP; and**
- (d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to enhance tourist safety, digital ticketing and unified portals, last-mile connectivity and adoption of sustainable and responsible tourism practices at major destinations?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a): Domestic Tourist Visits (DTVs) reached 2.51 billion in 2023, marking a robust post-pandemic recovery. Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in 2024 touched 9.95 million.

(b): The details are Annexed.

(c): As per the estimates of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), the total number of tourism jobs (direct and indirect) during 2023–24 was 84.63 million (8.46 Crore). The total share of tourism in the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for 2023-24 (Provisional) is estimated at 5.22%.

(d): Safety and Security of tourists is essentially a State subject. However, the Ministry of Tourism has been continuously taking up the matter with all the State Governments and Union Territory (UT) Administrations for setting up of dedicated Tourism Police to strengthen on-ground safety mechanism for tourists. With the efforts of Ministry of Tourism, the State Governments/UT's viz Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim and Uttar Pradesh have deployed tourist police.

Ministry of Tourism has been periodically requesting all State Governments and Union Territories for availing the benefits of the 'Safe Tourism Destination for Women' under Nirbhaya fund which can be utilized for projects specifically designed to improve the safety and security of women tourists.

The Ministry of Tourism along with all stakeholders, including the Tourism Departments of all States and UTs, have adopted the 'Code of Conduct for Safe & Honourable Tourism' which is a set of guidelines to encourage tourism activities to be undertaken with respect to basic rights like dignity, safety and freedom from exploitation of both tourists and local residents, in particular, women and children.

Further, The Ministry of Tourism, in association with the Adventure Tour Operators Association of India has formulated Model Adventure Safety Guidelines with an aim to establish a comprehensive and standardized framework to ensure safety in the Adventure Tourism sector across India. These guidelines have been circulated to all States and Union Territories for adoption and formulation / updation of safety protocols.

Effective and adequate connectivity is one of the important aspects for developing a tourist destination. Ministry of Tourism is working closely with Ministry of Civil Aviation for improving the air connectivity to important tourist destination and to lesser known/new destinations with high potential. It has coordinated with Ministry of Civil Aviation under their Regional Connectivity Scheme- Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik (RCS-UDAN) and is sharing the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) amount for 53 tourism routes identified for this purpose.

With a view to bring in more transparency, accountability and improved service delivery, the Ministry of Tourism introduced an online system of receiving, processing and granting approvals for classification

of Accommodation Units and recognition of Tourism Service Providers. Applications can be filed at the portal of National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry (NIDHI+), i.e. nidhi.tourism.gov.in. This online process has also been integrated with a payment gateway.

The Ministry of Tourism has launched a Comprehensive Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India (STCI) for three major segments of tourism industry, namely Tour Operators, Accommodation, and Beaches, Backwaters, Lakes and Rivers sectors. The criterion has been adopted by the stakeholders.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3886 ANSWERED ON 16.03.2026 REGARDING POST-PANDEMIC RECOVERY IN TOURIST ARRIVALS RAISED BY DR. D RAVI KUMAR****List of sanctioned projects under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 as on 15.01.2026**

S. No.	State	Destination	Name of the Experience	Sanction Year	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)	Amount Authorised (in ₹ Crore)
1	Andhra Pradesh	Bapatala	Development of Suryalanka Beach Experience	2024-25	97.52	9.75
2	Andhra Pradesh	Araku-Lambasingi	Borra Cave Experience at Araku	2023-24	29.88	2.99
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Mechuka	Mechuka Cultural Haat	2023-24	18.48	1.85
4	Arunachal Pradesh	Mechuka	Mechuka Adventure Park	2023-24	12.75	1.28
5	Arunachal Pradesh	Nacho	Unlock Nacho Expedition	2023-24	14.02	1.40
6	Assam	Kokrajhar	Kokrajhar Wetland Experience	2023-24 (Rev March 2025)	26.68	2.67
7	Assam	Jorhat	Reimagining Cinnamara Tea Estate	2023- 24 (Rev March 2025)	23.88	2.39
8	Bihar	Bodh Gaya	Development of the Buddhist Meditation & Experience Centre, Bodh Gaya	2024-25	165.44	16.54
9	Chhattisgarh	Kawardha	Bhoramdeo Corridor	2024-25	145.99	14.60

			Development, Kawardha			
10	DNHDD	Daman	Daman Convention Centre	2024-25	147.13	---
11	Goa	Porvorim	Porvorim Creek Experience	2024-25	24.07	2.41
12	Goa	Colva	Colva Beach Experience	2024-25	19.89	1.99
13	Haryana	Panchkula	Development of Adventure Tourism Hub at Tikkar Taal and Adventure Park	2024-25	26.68	2.67
14	Haryana	Panchkula	Rejuvenation of Yadavindra Garden	2024-25	65.82	6.58
15	Himachal Pradesh	Chintpurni	Development of Maa Chintpurni Devi Temple, Una	2025-26	56.26	5.63
16	Karnataka	Mysuru	Ecological Experience Zone	2023-24	18.48	1.85
17	Karnataka	Mysuru	Tonga Heritage experience zone	2023-24 (Rev Jan 2025)	2.72	0.27
18	Karnataka	Hampi	Setting up of 'Traveller nooks'	2023-24 (Rev Jan 2025)	25.64	2.56
19	Kerala	Alappuzha	Alappuzha: A Global Water Wonderland	2024-25 (Rev Jan 2025)	93.18	9.32
20	Kerala	Malampuzha	Enhancement of Tourist Experience at Malampuzha Garden and Leisure Park	2024-25	75.87	7.59

21	Kerala	Kumarakom	Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary Experience	2023-24	13.81	1.38
22	Ladakh	Leh	Julley Leh Biodiversity Park	2023-24 (Rev May 2025)	23.17	2.32
23	Ladakh	Kargil	Exploring LOC & Hundarman village Exp	2023-24 (Rev May 2025)	11.91	1.19
24	Lakshadweep	Bangaram	Development of Eco-Retreat, Adventure, Beach and Mice Experience at Bangaram	2024-25	81.18	8.12
25	Madhya Pradesh	Chitrakoot	Spiritual experience at Chitrakoot	2023-24	27.22	2.72
26	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior	Phoolbagh Experience Zone	2023-24	16.74	1.67
27	Madhya Pradesh	Datia	Development of Pitambara Peeth Datia	2025-26	44.24	4.42
28	Maharashtra	Pune	Shivshrusthi Theme Park	2024-25	76.22	7.62
29	Meghalaya	Sohra	Waterfall Trails Experience	2023-24 (Rev Sep 2025)	27.61	2.76
30	Meghalaya	Sohra	Meghalayan Age Cave Experience	2023-24	32.45	3.25
31	Mizoram	Champhai	Eco Resort Experience at Keilungliah, Zote, Ngur&Mualbuhvum, Champhai	2024-25	38.85	3.89

32	Mizoram	Champhai	Heritage and Cultural Centre, Champhai	2024-25	33.87	3.39
33	Mizoram	Aizawl	Construction of Conference Centre	2025-26	99.71	9.96
34	Nagaland	Chumoukedi ma	Adventure Tourism Experience at Jacob Village, Chumoukediema	2024-25	32.54	3.25
35	Nagaland	Chumoukedi ma	Eco-Tourism Exp at Chumoukedima viewpoint	2024-25	7.87	0.79
36	Nagaland	Chumoukedi ma	Tribal Cultural Experience at Midway Retreat	2023-24	21.57	2.16
37	Puducherry	Karaikal	Karaikal beach and waterfront experience	2023-24	20.30	---
38	Punjab	Amritsar	Border Tourism Experience at Attari	2024-25	25.91	2.59
39	Punjab	Kapurthala	Eco Tourism experience at Kanjli wetland	2023-24	20.06	---
40	Rajasthan	Sikar	Development works at Shri Khatu Shyam Ji Temple (Sikar)	2024-25	87.87	8.79
41	Rajasthan	Bundi	Spiritual Experience, Keshavraipatan	2023-24	21.65	2.17
42	Rajasthan	Bikaner dist.	Development Works at Shri Karni mata mandir, Bikaner	2025-26	22.58	2.26
43	Rajasthan	MalaseriDun gari (District Bhilwara)	Development of MalaseriDungri,	2025-26	48.73	4.87

			Bhilwara District			
44	Sikkim	Gyalshing	Eco-Wellness Experience at Yuksom Cluster	2023-24	15.41	1.54
45	Sikkim	Gangtok	Gangtok Cultural Village	2023-24	22.60	11.30
46	Tamil Nadu	Mamallapuram	Immersive experience at Shore Temple	2023-24 (Rev May 2025)	30.02	---
47	Telangana	Ananathagiri	Eco tourism zone at Ananathgiri forest	2023-24	38.00	3.80
48	Telangana	Bhongir	Bhongir Fort Experiential Zone	2023-24	56.82	5.68
49	Tripura	Agartala	Tripura Heritage Village & Sangeet Experience at Agartala (Phase-1 &2)	2024-25	48.95	4.89
50	Uttar Pradesh	Naimisaranya	Vedic- wellness Experience	2023-24 (Rev March 2025)	17.80	---
51	Uttar Pradesh	Prayagraj	Azad Park and Dekho Prayagraj Trail Experince	2023-24 (Rev March 2025)	14.52	1.45
52	Uttarakhand	Champawat	Tea Garden Experience	2023-24 (Rev March 2025)	19.89	1.99
53	Uttarakhand	Pithoragarh	Rural Tourism Cluster Experience at Gunji	2023-24 (Rev March 2025)	17.86	1.79
Total					2208.31	206.35

Projects sanctioned under PRASHAD Scheme during 2023-25

S. No.	State	Project Name	Sanction Year	Sanction Amount (in ₹ Crore)	Amount Released (in ₹ Crore)
1	Andhra Pradesh	Development of Pilgrimage Tourism Infrastructure in Annavaram Temple Town	2024-25	25.33	6.74
2	Bihar	Development of Ambika Bhawani Temple, Saran	2024-25	13.29	0
3	Goa	Development of Bom Jesus Basilica	2024-25	16.46	4.68
4	Karnataka	Development of Pilgrimage Amenities at Sri Chamundeshwari Devi Temple, Mysuru	2023-24	45.38	13.33
5	Karnataka	Development of Renuka Yallama Devi temple	2024-25	18.37	0
6	Karnataka	Development of Basic Amenities at Papnash Temple, Bidar dist.	2024-25	22.25	6.3
7	Mizoram	Development of Basic Amenities under PRASHAD scheme in Vangchhia, Champhai District	2024-25	5.47	1.56
8	Puducherry	Development of Pilgrim Facilites & Tourist attractions for Sri Dharbaranyeswara Temple	2024-25	25.94	0
9	Tamil Nadu	Development of 8 Navagraha Temples	2024-25	40.94	0
10	Telangana	Development of Basic Amenities at goddess Renuka Yellama Devasthanam	2024-25	4.22	0
