

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tourism has launched the Swadesh Darshan scheme in the year 2014-15 with a vision to develop theme based tourist circuits on the principles of high tourist value, competitiveness and sustainability in an integrated manner by synergizing efforts to focus on needs and concerns of all stakeholders to enrich tourist experience and enhance employment opportunities. The Ministry has initially identified following twelve thematic circuits for development under the scheme: North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit and Ramayana Circuit. All the State Governments/UTs including Andhra Pradesh were advised to submit proposals as per scheme guidelines under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme.

The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted following two proposals under Coastal Circuit theme of the Swadesh Darshan scheme:

Sl.No.	Project	Status
1.	Development of Kakinada Hope Island Kona Seema as World Class Coastal and Eco Tourism Circuit, Andhra Pradesh.	Project sanctioned for ₹ 69.83 crore during 2014-15.
2.	Development of Coastal Tourism Circuit in Sri Potti Sriramalu Nellore, Andhra Pradesh.	Project has been recommended for sanction by the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee in the meeting held on 6.10.2015.

#### **Financial assistance for digitization of art objects**

352. SHRI AVINASH PANDE : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of museums which are provided funds under the scheme financial assistance for digitization of museum collections for digitization of art objects in the country and for making their images/catalogues available over the website; and

(b) the details of funds received and utilized by these museums for the said purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) As many as seventeen museums across the country have been provided with funds under the Scheme "Financial Assistance for Digitization of Museum Collections", since the inception of the Scheme in 2014.

(b) the details of funds allocated by Ministry of Culture and utilized by the museums/organization is as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of Museum	Funds released by Ministry of Culture	Utilized so far by the museums/ organization concerned
1.	Department of Archaeology Museums, Government of Rajasthan for the their 16 museums at (i) Udaipur (ii) Jodhpur (iii) Mount Abu (iv) Ajmer (v) Jhalawar (vi) Bikaner (vii) Kota (viii) Bharatpur (ix) Pali (x) Jaisalmer (xi) Alwar (xii) Sikar (xiii) Ahar (xiv) Dungarpur (xv) Chittorgarh (xvi) Albert Hall, Jaipur	₹ 28.00/- lakhs	₹ 14,53,456/-
2.	Symbiosis society's Dr. Baba Sahib Ambedkar Museum and Memorial, Pune.	₹ 4,59,440/-	Nil

#### **Carbon pollution around Taj Mahal**

353. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, after a recent IIT Kanpur study revealing carbon pollution around the Taj Mahal turning its white marble yellow, the Taj Trapezium Zone Authority has ordered vehicles plying near Taj to convert to CNG before July 31, 2015;

(b) if so, whether the vehicles plying near Taj have been converted to CNG by the stipulated date;

(c) the factual position in the matter; and

(d) whether the new order of Government will apply only to vehicles operating within the Taj Trapezium Zone (TTZ) or for other vehicles *viz.* trucks and other heavy vehicles also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. It has been decided by the Taj Trapezium Zone Authority, a Government of Uttar Pradesh Authority, that all petrol/diesel operated commercial vehicles should be converted to CNG and are not being allowed to ply within municipal limits of Agra from 31.07.2015.

(b) and (c) So far 34,302 vehicles have been converted to CNG at Agra. The entry of Euro-I-Model, petrol/ diesel operated Auto Loader vehicles have been banned from 31.07.2015.

(d) The new order will apply to petrol/diesel operated Auto Loader Vehicles.