

The Ministry has not received any project proposal for development of Ratnagiri, Maharashtra. However, the Ministry has sanctioned following projects for development of tourism infrastructure and tourism related amenities in Konkan region of Maharashtra:—

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Scheme/Sanction Year	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned
1.	Swadesh Darshan (2015-16)	Development of the Sindhudurg (Shiroda Beach, Sagareshwar, Tarkarli, Vijaydurg (Beach and Creek), Devgad (Fort and Beach), Mitbhav, Tondavali, Mochamad and Nivati Fort) under Coastal Circuit theme	82.17
2.	Assistance to Central Agencies (2016-17)	Development of Kanhoji Angre Lighthouse as a tourist Destination	15.00
3.	Assistance to Central Agencies (2017-18)	Up-gradation/modernization of Cruise terminal at Indira Dock, Mumbai	12.50
4.	Assistance to Central Agencies (2017-18)	Manufacturing of three Glass Top Coaches*	12.00

*One of the Coaches is plying from Dadar, Mumbai to Madgaon, Goa.

Development of coastal tourism circuits in Tamil Nadu

1250. DR. SASIKALAPUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified Chennai-Mamallapuram-Rameshwaram-Maapadee-Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu under coastal tourism circuits for development of tourism infrastructure;

(b) if so, the details of the steps proposed to be taken under this scheme;

(c) whether Government has allocated funds for this since the inception of the scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned the project ‘ Development of Chennai-Mamamallapuram-Rameshwaram-Manpadu-Kanyakumari’ in Tamil Nadu under Coastal Circuit theme of Swadesh Darshan Scheme in the year 2016-17 for ₹ 99.92 crore. The components sanctioned under the project include SEL show, last mile connectivity, information signages, illumination, sea-view seating plazas, CCTV surveillance equipment, rescue boats, walking tracks etc. among other basic tourist amenities like First aid kiosks, Drinking water kiosks, public conveniences etc.

Expansion of tourism in the country

1251. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that India is one of the top ranked destination spot in tourism;
- (b) if so, what actions have been taken to develop and continue the ranking thereof; and
- (c) the proposal of Government to make the country more tourist friendly and expand tourism in the country therefor, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL): (a) to (c) As per the figures of International Tourist Arrivals (ITAs) compiled by United Nations World Tourism Organization, India’ s position in Asia and the Pacific region in terms of ITAs during 2017 was seventh.

Development and promotion of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Government/UT Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism promotes India as a holistic destination covering its various tourism destinations and products across different States/Union Territories in the country. Ministry has taken several initiatives to boost tourism in the country with the objective of increasing tourist arrivals, which *inter-alia* include:—

- Central Financial Assistance to States/UTs under the schemes of Swadesh Darshan, National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) and Assistance to Central Agencies for the development of tourism related infrastructure in the country.
- Extension of e-visa facility to citizens of 167 countries.
- Launch of the Incredible India 2.0 campaign with market specific promotional plans and content creation.