

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (Ms. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Article 279A(4)(a) of the Constitution of India empowers the Goods and Services Tax Council to make recommendations to the Union and the States on the taxes, cesses and surcharges levied by the Union, the States and the local bodies which may be subsumed in the GST (Goods and Services Tax). Accordingly, various Central taxes and State taxes have been subsumed under GST and both State and Central tax administrations are administering it simultaneously.

However, there are few taxes have not been subsumed under GST. The supply of alcoholic liquor for human consumption is still under the exclusive purview of State tax administration and is taxed under the law of the States. Products such as petroleum crude, high speed diesel, motor spirit (commonly known as petrol), natural gas and aviation turbine fuel may be brought under GST at a future date, as may be notified on the basis of the recommendations of the Goods and Services Tax Council. Presently, these products are being taxed under existing tax laws of Centre as well as States.

(b) No Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

Development of tourism in Assam and North Eastern States

*32. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of tremendous potential in adventure tourism, religious tourism and eco-tourism in Assam and other North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to consider spending more funds for infrastructure development to promote these types of tourisms in Assam and other North Eastern States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Tourism has identified Adventure Tourism, Eco Tourism and Sustainable Tourism as some of the Niche Tourism Products to

promote India including Assam and other North Eastern States as a year round destination and to attract tourists with specific interest for ensuring repeat visits for the unique products *vis-a-vis* competing destinations. In addition, adequate focus is also being accorded for development of religious and pilgrim tourism.

Ministry of Tourism under its flagship schemes of Swadesh Darshan and National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) is giving due emphasis for development of tourism infrastructure and facilities. Under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, 15 themes have been identified for developing theme based circuits. These themes include Buddhist Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Desert Circuit, Eco Circuit, Heritage Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Krishna Circuit, North-East Circuit, Ramayana Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Sufi Circuit, Tirthankar Circuit, Tribal Circuit and Wildlife Circuit.

Under the PRASHAD Scheme, 41 religious cities/sites in 25 States have been identified for development which are Amaravati and Srisailem (Andhra Pradesh), Kamakhya (Assam), Parasuram Kund (Lohit District, Arunachal Pradesh), Patna and Gaya (Bihar), Balmeshwari Devi Temple (Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh), Dwarka and Somnath (Gujarat), Gurudwara Nada Saheb (Panchkula, Haryana), Maa Chintpurni (Una, Himachal Pradesh), Hazratbal and Katra (Jammu and Kashmir), Deogarh and Parasnath (Jharkhand), Chamundeshwari Devi (Mysuru, Karnataka), Guruvayoor, St. Thomas International Shrine (Malayattoor) and Cheraman Juma Mosque (Thrissur, Kerala), Omkareshwar and Amarkantak (Madhya Pradesh), Babedpara, West Jaintia Hills and Sohra (Meghalaya), Aizwal (Mizoram), Kohima and Mokokchung Districts (Nagaland), Trimbakeshwar (Maharashtra), Puri (Odisha), Amritsar (Punjab), Ajmer (Rajasthan), Kanchipuram and Vellankani (Tamil Nadu), Tripura Sundari (Tripura), Varanasi and Mathura (Uttar Pradesh), Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri (Uttarakhand) and Belur (West Bengal).

The list of projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD Schemes in Assam and other North East States is given in Statement (*See below*).

The Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD Schemes Guidelines have provision for developing nature and environment friendly destinations for both global and domestic tourists. The Ministry has made it mandatory for the State Governments/UT Administrations to prepare the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) involving eco-tourism aspects *viz.* use of clean/renewable energy; eco-friendly materials and equipment, recycling & reuse while submitting proposals under the PRASHAD and the Swadesh Darshan Schemes.

Ministry of Tourism is regularly promoting adventure tourism, religious tourism and eco-tourism as part of Incredible India 2.0 Campaign in domestic and overseas markets. Ministry of Tourism is also releasing specific media campaigns for promoting tourism destinations in North East States. North Eastern States are also being showcased on the Incredible India website. These destinations and niche tourism products are also being promoted on regular basis by India tourism offices in exhibitions and fairs held in India and abroad.

Statement

List of projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD Schemes in Assam and other North Eastern States

Swadesh Darshan				(₹ in crore)
Sl. No.	State/UT	Name of the Circuit	Name of the Project	Amt. Sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5
Year 2014-15				
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	North-East Circuit	Development of Mega Circuit at Bhalukpong- Bomdila and Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh.	49.77
Year 2015-16				
2.	Manipur	North-East Circuit	Development of Tourist Circuit in Manipur: Imphal- Khongjom	72.23
	Sikkim	North-East Circuit	Development of Tourist Circuit linking Rangpo (entry)-Rorathang- Aritar- Phadamchen- Nathang- Sherathang- Tsongmo- Gangtok- Phodong- Mangan- Lachung- Yumthang- Lachen- Thangu- Gurudongmer- Mangan- Gangtok- TuminLingee- Singtam (exit) in Sikkim.	98.05
4.	Nagaland	Tribal Circuit	Development of Tribal Circuit Peren- Kohima- Wokha, Nagaland	97.36

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Mizoram	North East Circuit	Integrated Development of New Eco Tourism under Swadesh Darshan- North East Circuit at Thenzawl & South Zote, District Serchhip and Reiek, Mizoram.	94.91
6.	Assam	Wildlife Circuit	Development of Manas- Probitora- Nameri- Kaziranga- Dibru-Saikhowa as Wildlife Circuit in Assam.	95.67
7.	Arunachal Pradesh	North East Circuit	Integrated Development of New Adventure Tourism in Arunachal Pradesh	97.14
8.	Tripura	North East Circuit	Development of North East Circuit: Agartala - Sipahijala - Melaghar - Udaipur - Amarpur- Tirthamukh- Mandirghat- Dumboor- Narikel Kunja- Gandachara- Ambassa in Tripura	99.59
Year 2016-17				
9.	Meghalaya	North East Circuit	Development of Umium (Lake View), U Lum Sohpetbneng-Mawdiangdiang- Orchid Lake Resort, Meghalaya.	99.13
10.	Manipur	Spiritual Circuit	Development of Spiritual Circuit- Shri Govindajee Temple, Shri Bijoy Govindajee Temple-Shri Gopinath Temple-Shri Bungshibodon Temple- Shri Kaina Temple, Manipur.	53.80
11.	Sikkim	North East Circuit	Development of Tourist Circuit Linking Singtam-Maka-Temi-Bermoik Tokel-Phongia-Namchi-Jorthang- Okharey- Sombaria-Daramdin- Jorethang- Melli (Exit) in Sikkim.	95.32
12.	Nagaland	Tribal Circuit	Development of Tribal circuit (Mokokchung-Tuensang-Mon) in Nagaland	99.67

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Assam	Heritage Circuit	Development of Tezpur - Majuli - Sibsagar as Heritage Circuit in Assam under Swadesh Darshan scheme	98.35
14.	Mizoram	Eco Circuit	Development of Eco-Adventure Circuit Aizawl-Rawpuichhip-Khawphawp- Lengpui - Durtlang - Chatlang- Sakawrhmutaitlang - Muthee-Beratlawng - Tuirial Airfield - Hmuifang under Eco circuit theme of Swadesh Darshan Scheme	99.07

Year 2018-19

15.	Tripura	North East Circuit	Development of North East circuit: Surma Cherra- Unakoti- Jampui Hills- Gunabati-Bhunaneshwari-Matabari- Neermahal- Boxanagar-Chotta khola- Pilak- Avangchaarra in Tripura	65.00
16.	Meghalaya	North East Circuit	Development of West Khasi Hills (Nongkhlaw- Krem Tirot - Khudoi & Kohmang Falls - Khri River - Mawthadraishan, Shillong), Jaintia Hills (Krang Suri Falls- Shyrmang-Iooksi), Garo Hills (Nokrek Reserve, Katta Beel, Siju Caves)	84.97

PRASHAD Scheme

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Name of the Project	Project Cost
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Year 2015-16

1.	Assam	Development of Kamakhya Temple and Pilgrimage Destination in and around Guwahati	30.71
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Year 2018-19

2.	Nagaland	Development of Pilgrimage Facilities in Nagaland	25.26
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