

(b) whether the funds were sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme and if so, the details thereof and the present status of improvement of India's ties with Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Tourism under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme has sanctioned the project -Development of North East Circuit: Agartala - Sipahijala - Melaghar - Udaipur -Amarpur- Tirfhamukh- Mandirghat- Dumboor- Narikel Kunja- Gandachara- Ambassa sanctioned for ₹99.59 crore in the year 2015-16. Under the project funds to the tune of ₹9.26 crore has been allocated for Border Ceremony at Akaura border. The components for development includes Open Air Theatre, Conference Block, wayside amenities, Signage's, solid waste management etc.

As informed by the Ministry of External Affairs India-Bangladesh relations are at a historic high point. The relationship between the two countries have grown in areas of strategic and security partnership, trade, transport and connectivity, power and energy transmission, socio-economic and infrastructure development as well as training and capacity building.

Increase in domestic tourism

1755. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Domestic Tourist Visits have been growing at an astonishing pace in recent decades, especially religious tourism in the country;

(b) if so, number of Domestic Tourist Visits (DTV's) in the country for the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the details of steps taken by Government in consultations with the State Governments to improve tourist and religious places to make them tourists friendly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Domestic Tourist Visits (DTV's) have been increasing during recent decades. Details of DTV's during last three years are

given in the Statement (*See* below). Data of tourist visits at religious places is not centrally maintained.

(c) Development and promotion of tourism including religious places is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territories. However, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India under its schemes of Swadesh Darshan, Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) and Assistance to Central Agencies, provides central financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territories/Central Agencies for development of tourism related infrastructure and facilities in the country. The projects under the scheme are identified for development in consultation with concerned State Government/UT Administration and are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, submission of suitable detailed project reports, adherences to scheme guidelines and utilization of funds released earlier.

Further, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has launched the "Adopt a Heritage: Apni Dharohar, Apni Pehchaan" project which is a collaborative effort by the Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture, Archaeological Survey of India and State/UTs for developing tourism amenities at heritage/ natural/ tourist sites spread across India for making them tourist friendly, in a planned and phased manner. The project aims to encourage companies from public sector, private sector, corporate citizens, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), individuals and other stakeholders to take up the responsibility of developing and upgrading the basic and advanced tourist amenities at heritage/natural/ tourist sites. They would also look after the operation and maintenance of the same.

Statement

Details of Domestic Tourist Visits (DTV's) during 2016-2018

		2016	2017	2018 (Revised)
Sl. No.	States/UTs	DTV's	DTV's	DTV's
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	384552	471919	498279
2.	Andhra Pradesh	153163354	165433898	194767874

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	385875	444005	512436
4.	Assam	5160599	6052667	5856282
5.	Bihar	28516127	32414063	33621613
6.	Chandigarh	1182504	1425781	1538796
7.	Chhattisgarh	16534471	17350030	19329501
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	589074	614182	609435
9.	Daman and Diu	826201	858131	898824
10.	Delhi *	28460832	29114423	29114423
11.	Goa	5650061	6895234	7081559
12.	Gujarat	42252909	48343121	54369873
13.	Haryana	7382995	6050325	4888952
14.	Himachal Pradesh	17997750	19130541	16093935
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	9414579	14235473	17076315
16.	Jharkhand	33389286	33723185	35408822
17.	Karnataka	129762600	179980191	214306456
18.	Kerala	13172536	14673520	15604661
19.	Lakshadweep	8716	6620	10435
20.	Madhya Pradesh	150490339	78038522	83969799
21.	Maharashtra *	116515801	119191539	119191539
22.	Manipur	150638	153454	176109
23.	Meghalaya	830887	990856	1198340
24.	Mizoram	67238	67772	76551
25.	Nagaland	58178	63362	101588
26.	Odisha	12842766	14011229	15208540
27.	Puducherry	1398289	1531972	1616660
28.	Punjab	38703326	40293352	44595061

1	2	3	4	5
29.	Rajasthan	41495115	45916573	50235643
30.	Sikkim	747343	1375854	1426127
31.	Tamil Nadu	343812413	345061140	385909376
32.	Telangana	95160830	85266596	92878329
33.	Tripura	370618	398669	414388
34.	Uttar Pradesh	213544204	233977619	285079848
35.	Uttarakhand	30505363	34359989	35609650
36.	West Bengal	74460250	79630345	85657365

* Figure of 2017 repeated for 2018

Centrally sponsored schemes under implementation

1756. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), including flagship programmes, being implemented at present by the Ministry; and

(b) the details of targets and allocation made, fund allocated, disbursed and utilised in these schemes during the last three years, including the present year, scheme-wise and State/UT-wise, particularly in the State of Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL): (a) and (b) There is no Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) in the Ministry of Tourism. However, the Ministry of Tourism has implemented its two Central Sector Flagship Schemes namely 'Swadesh Darshan' and 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' for the development of tourism related infrastructure and facilities to promote tourism in the country. Under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, 15 theme based circuits and under the PRASHAD Scheme, 51 religious cities/sites have been identified for development in the country.

Details of projects sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan and PRASHAD Schemes to different States/Union Territories including the State of Punjab during the last three years are given in the Statement.