

**Coastal Circuit development in Odisha**

2718. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the total funds sanctioned for the development of the Coastal Circuit (Gopalpur, Barkul, Satapada and Tampara) in Odisha since 2016;
- (b) the details of utilisation of these funds; and
- (c) whether any proposals of the State Government of Odisha are pending before Government under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL): (a) to (c) Ministry of Tourism under its Swadesh Darshan Scheme has sanctioned the project for Development of Gopalpur, Barkul, Satapada and Tampara in Odisha for ₹70.82 crore in the year 2016-17 out of which ₹37.61 crore has already been released to the implementing agency. Ministry has received a concept proposal on Buddhist circuit in Odisha from the State Government.

**Measures to boost domestic tourism**

2719. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry will fund the travel expenses of tourists who visit 15 destinations in the country in a year and submit the photos on the website of the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the other measures Government is proposing to take to encourage people to visit more domestic destinations boosting local as well as national economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tourism has no scheme for funding the travel expenses of tourists for visiting destinations in the country. However, the Ministry of Tourism has launched 'Dekho Apna Desh' initiative on MyGov platform to promote Domestic Tourism in the country. The 'Dekho Apna Desh' initiative encourages the citizens to take a pledge to visit at least 15 tourist places by the year 2022 to witness India's amazing diversity and realize the mission of 'Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat'. Ministry

of Tourism is providing small souvenirs, framed certificates of the pledge taken, etc. to those registering on the My Gov platform to provide an impetus to the initiative.

(c) Ministry of Tourism undertakes promotional activities in domestic markets through its scheme of "Domestic Promotion and Publicity including Hospitality (DPPH)". Under this scheme, Ministry of Tourism promotes India as a holistic destination under the Incredible India brand-line. As part of its ongoing activities, the Ministry releases print, electronic, online and outdoor media campaigns in the domestic markets, to promote various tourism destinations and products of the country. In addition, the Ministry of Tourism under its schemes of Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD, and Assistance to Central Agencies provides Central Financial Assistance to State Governments/UT Administrations/Central agencies for development of tourism infrastructure in the country.

**Circuit based tourist places in West Bengal under  
Swadesh Darshan scheme**

2720. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the circuits in West Bengal which have been selected under the Swadesh Darshan scheme;

(b) the names of the places which have been selected under these circuits;

(c) the details of amount sanctioned for carrying out works under the scheme; and

(d) the time by which these works are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL): (a) to (d) Ministry of Tourism under its Swadesh Darshan scheme has sanctioned project for Development of Coastal Circuit in West Bengal in Udaipur-Digha- Shankarpur-Tajpur- Mandarmani- Fraserganj-Bakkhlai- Henry Island for ₹85.39 crore in the year 2015-16 out of which ₹68.31 crore has been released. All the components of the project are under various stages of implementation.

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