

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.460**  
ANSWERED ON 25.07.2024

**TOURISM SCHEMES FOR TAMIL NADU**

460. SHRI VAIKO:  
SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of **TOURISM** be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds allocated under Swadesh Darshan2.0 scheme for the State of Tamil Nadu, particularly to districts Tenkasi, Virudhunagar, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari, Tiruchi, Thanjavur, Thiruvarur and Mayiladuthurai which have rich and abundant tourist places and eco-tourism;
- (b) the details of projects undertaken in the State for fostering sustainable and responsible centric approaches to improve tourism infrastructure; and
- (c) whether, in view of lot of potential for the tourism development, more funds will be allocated under various schemes for the State, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Tourism through its ongoing central sector scheme of 'Swadesh Darshan' complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development by extending financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations. Under the Swadesh Darshan scheme, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned 01 project in the year 2016-17 i.e. 'Development of (Chennai-Mamamallapuram – Rameshwaram – Manpadu – Kanyakumari)' under Coastal circuit theme for Rs.73.13 crore in the State of Tamil Nadu.

The Ministry of Tourism has recently revamped the Swadesh Darshan Scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations, following a destination & tourism-centric approach. The scheme outlines implementation of sustainable and responsible tourism practices in various projects & initiatives and to encourage adoption of principles of sustainable tourism. In consultation with the States/UTs and in line with the scheme guidelines, the Ministry has accordingly identified 57 destinations across 32 States/UTs in the country for development under SD 2.0 including 'Mamallapuram' and 'The Nilgiris' in Tamil Nadu. A project 'Immersive Experience at Shore Temple Mamallapuram' amounting Rs.30.02 crore has been sanctioned in the State of Tamil Nadu under SD 2.0.

Further, the Ministry of Tourism has also issued guidelines for 'Challenge Based Destination Development', a sub-scheme under Swadesh Darshan 2.0, under which the Ministry of Tourism has identified 42 destinations for development including 'Thanjavur' under Culture & Heritage Destinations category and 'Rameswaram Island' under Spiritual Destinations category in the State of Tamil Nadu.

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