

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.462
ANSWERED ON 25.07.2024

DEVELOPMENT AND IDENTIFICATION OF PILGRIMAGE SITES

462 SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to focus on developing and identifying pilgrimage sites across the country for enriching the religious tourism experience;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to improve the infrastructure of religious tourist places?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Tourism launched the PRASAD (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive) Scheme in 2014-15 with the objective of developing infrastructure at pre-identified religious and heritage sites across the country. The nomenclature of the scheme has been changed from PRASAD to "National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)" in October 2017. Under the Scheme, the Ministry provides financial assistance to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for the development of tourism infrastructure at these sites. The Ministry has sanctioned 46 projects at a cost of Rs.1621.14 crore under the PRASAD Scheme and 29 sites are also identified for development under the PRASHAD Scheme.

The Ministry also launched 'Swadesh Darshan' Scheme in 2015 for the development of theme-based circuits in the country. Under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, 15 themes were identified for development of tourist circuits. Projects have been sanctioned under the Buddhist circuit, Krishna Circuit, Ramayana Circuit, Spiritual Circuit & Tirthankar Circuit to cater to the development of tourism infrastructure at religious/spiritual tourism destinations. A total of 23 projects have been sanctioned for an amount of Rs.1365.74 Crore under the above-mentioned themes of the Swadesh Darshan Scheme. Additionally, 57 new destinations, including religious/spiritual destinations, have been identified for development under Swadesh Darshan 2.0. and a total of 42 destinations including religious/pilgrimage sites are identified under "Challenge Based Destination Development", a sub-scheme under Swadesh Darshan 2.0. The details are annexed.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) of RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.462 ANSWERED ON 25.07.2024 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT AND IDENTIFICATION OF PILGRIMAGE SITES BY SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY.

List of sanctioned projects under PRASHAD Scheme.

(Amount in ₹ crore)

State/UT	S.No.	Project Name	Sanction Year	Approved Cost
Andhra Pradesh	1	Development of Pilgrim Amenities at Amaravati	2015-16	27.77
	2	Development of Srisailam Temple	2017-18	43.08
	3	Development of Pilgrimage Amenities at Sri Varaha Lakshmi Narsimha Swami Vari Devasthanam at Simhachalam	2022-23	54.04
Arunachal Pradesh	4	Development of Parshuram Kund	2020-21	37.88
Assam	5	Development of Pilgrimage amenities at Kamakhya Temple	2015-16	29.80
Bihar	6	Development at Patna Sahib	2015-16	41.54
	7	Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple	2014-15	3.63
Chhattisgarh	8	Development of Pilgrimage amenities at Maa Bamleshwari Devi Temple	2020-21	48.44
Gujarat	9	Development of Dwarka	2016-17	13.08
	10	Development of Pilgrimage Amenities at Somnath	2016-17	45.36
	11	Development of Promenade at Somnath	2018-19	47.12
	12	Development of Pilgrim Plaza with Queue management complex at Somnath Gujarat	2021-22	49.97
	13	Development of Pilgrimage Facilities at Ambaji Temple	2022-23	50.00
Haryana	14	Development of Mata Mansa Devi Temple and Nada Saheb Gurudwara	2019-20	48.53
Jammu and Kashmir	15	Development at Hazratbal Shrine	2016-17	40.46
Jharkhand	16	Development of Baba Baidya Nath Dham	2018-19	36.79
Karnataka	17	Development of Pilgrimage Amenities at Sri Chamundeshwari Devi Temple	2023-24	45.71
Kerala	18	Development at Guruvayur Temple	2016-17	45.19
Madhya Pradesh	19	Development of Amarkantak	2020-21	49.99
	20	Development of Omkareshwar	2017-18	43.93
Maharashtra	21	Development of Trimbakeshwar	2017-18	42.18

Meghalaya	22	Development of Pilgrimage Facilitation at Nongswalia Church, Nartiang Shakti Peeth, Aitnar Pool and Charantala Kali Temple	2020-21	29.29
Mizoram	23	Development of Infrastructure for Pilgrimage and Heritage Tourism at Chite Vang, Zuangtai, Reiek and Aizawl	2022-23	44.89
Nagaland	24	Development of Pilgrimage Infrastructure at Molungkimong, Noksen Church, Aizuto, Wokha and Kohima	2018-19	25.20
	25	Development of Pilgrimage Tourism Infrastructure at Zunheboto	2022-23	18.18
Odisha	26	Infrastructure Development at Puri	2014-15	50.00
Punjab	27	Development of Karuna Sagar Valmiki Sthal at Amritsar	2015-16	6.40
	28	Development of Chamkaur Sahib	2021-22	31.57
Rajasthan	29	Integrated Development of Pushkar/Ajmer	2015-16	32.64
Sikkim	30	Development of Pilgrimage Facilitation at Four Patron Saints, Yuksom	2020-21	33.32
Tamil Nadu	31	Development of Kanchipuram	2016-17	13.99
	32	Development of Velankanni	2016-17	4.86
Telangana	33	Development of Jogulamba Devi Temple	2020-21	38.90
	34	Development of Pilgrimage and Heritage Tourism Infrastructure at Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple	2022-23	62.00
	35	Development of Pilgrimage Infrastructure at Bhadrachalam	2022-23	41.38
Tripura	36	Development of Tripura Sundari Temple	2020-21	37.80
Uttar Pradesh	37	Development of Varanasi –Phase –I	2015-16	18.73
	38	Development of Mathura-Vrindavan as Mega Tourist Circuit (Ph-II)	2014-15	10.98
	39	Development of River Cruise Tourism at Varanasi	2017-18	9.02
	40	Construction of Tourist Facilitation Centre at Vrindavan	2014-15	9.36
	41	Development of Varanasi – Phase II	2017-18	44.60
	42	Development of Infrastructure facilities at Govardhan	2018-19	37.59
Uttarakhand	43	Integrated Development of Kedarnath	2015-16	34.77
	44	Development of Infrastructure for Pilgrimage Facilitation in Badrinath Ji Dham	2018-19	56.15
	45	Augmentation of Pilgrimage Infrastructure Facilities at Gangotri and Yamunotri Dham	2021-22	54.36
West Bengal	46	Development of Belur Math	2016-17	30.03
Total				1621.14

List of identified projects under PRASHAD Scheme.

S. No.	State/UT	Project / Subject
1	Andhra Pradesh	Annavaram, Kakinada District
2	Andhra Pradesh	Vedagiri Lakshmi Narasimhawamy Temple, Nellore District
3	Bihar	Simariya Ghat, Begusarai District
4	Bihar	Aami Mandir, Saran District
5	Chhattisgarh	Kudargarh Temple, Surajpur District
6	Goa	Bom Jesus, Old Goa District
7	Gujarat	Shri Nilkanth Mahadev Temple, Sunak, Mahesana District
8	Himachal Pradesh	Maa Chintpurni Temple, Una District
9	Jammu & Kashmir	Utterbehni and Purmandal, Samba District
10	Karnataka	Sri Renuka Yallamma Temple, Saudatti, Belagavi District
11	Karnataka	Papnash Temple, Bidar District
12	Madhya Pradesh	Shri Peetmbra Peetha, Datia District
13	Madhya Pradesh	Shanidev Temple, Morena District
14	Maharashtra	Shri Ghrushneshwar Shivalaya, Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar District
15	Maharashtra	Tuljapur, Dharashiv District District
16	Maharashtra	Shre Kshetra Rajur, Ganpati Temple, Jalna District
17	Mizoram	Vangchhia, Champhai District
18	Odisha	Chausath Yogini Temple, Ranipur, Jharial, Balangir District
19	Odisha	Maa Kichakeswari Temple in Kiching, Mayurbhanj District
20	Puducherry	Navagriha Temple- Sri Dharbaranyeswarar Temple & Spiritual Park, Karaikal District
21	Punjab	Durgyana Temple, Amritsar District
22	Rajasthan	Shri Karni Mata Mandir, Bikaner District
23	Rajasthan	Sun Temple, Budhahita, Kota District
24	Rajasthan	Malaseri Dungri
25	Tamil Nadu	Navagriha Temple at 8 places in Tamil Nadu 1. Sri Kailasanathar Temple, Thingalur, Thanjavur District 2. Guru Bhagvan Temple, Alangudi, Thanjavur District 3. Sri Naaganathar Temple, Thirunageshwaram, Thanjavur District 4. Sri Suryanaar Temple, Thiruvidaimaruthur, Suriyanar Kovil, Thanjavur District 5. Sri Agneeswarar Temple, Kanjanur, Thanjavur District 6. Sri Vaitheeshwaran Temple, Vaitheeswaran Kovil, Mayiladuthurai District 7. Sri Naganatha Swamy Temple, Keelaperumpallam, Mayiladuthurai District 8. Suweathaaranyshwarar Temple, Thiruvankadu, Mayiladuthurai District
26	Telangana	Goddess Yellamma Temple at Balkampet, Hyderabad District
27	Uttar Pradesh	Shri Kali Mandir established by Adiguru Shankaracharya, Chowk, Lucknow District
28	Uttar Pradesh	Pilgrimage sites of Braj, Mathura District
29	Uttarakhand	Timmersian MahaDev (Devnath), Chamoli District

List of spiritual/religious destinations developed under Swadesh Darshan Scheme.

BUDDHIST CIRCUIT

(Amount in ₹ crore)

S. No.	Name of State	Year	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	Madhya Pradesh	(2016-17)	Development of Sanchi-Satna-Rewa-Mandsaur-Dhar.	74.02	72.75
2.	Uttar Pradesh	(2016-17)	Development of Sravasti, Kushinagar, & Kapilvastu.	87.89	72.56
3.	Bihar	(2016-17)	Construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya	95.18	95.18
4.	Gujarat	(2017-18)	Development of Junagadh- Gir Somnath- Bharuch-Kutch- Bhavnagar- Rajkot- Mehsana	26.68	22.28
5.	Andhra Pradesh	(2017-18)	Development of Buddhist Circuit: Shalihundam- Bavikonda- Bojjanakonda -Amravati- Anupu	35.24	30.03
Total				319.01	292.80

KRISHNA CIRCUIT

(Amount in ₹ crore)

S. No.	Name of State	Year	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	Haryana	(2016-17)	Development of Tourism Infrastructures at Brahmsarovar, SanhitSarovar, Narkatari, Jyotisar in Kurukshetra.	77.39	76.74
2.	Rajasthan	(2016-17)	Development of Govind Dev ji temple (Jaipur), Khatu Shyam Ji (Sikar) and Nathdwara (Rajsamand).	75.80	73.85
Total				153.19	150.59

RAMAYANA CIRCUIT

(Amount in ₹ crore)

S. No.	Name of State	Year	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	Uttar Pradesh	(2016-17)	Development of Chitrakoot and Shringverpur	69.45	64.09
2.	Uttar Pradesh	(2017-18)	Development of Ayodhya	127.21	115.46
Total				196.66	179.55

SPIRITUAL CIRCUIT

(Amount in ₹ crore)

S. No.	Name of State	Year	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	Kerala	(2016-17)	Development of Sabarimala - Erumeli-Pampa-Sannidhanam as a Spiritual Circuit in District Pathanamthitta, Kerala.	46.54	33.39
2.	Manipur	(2016-17)	Development of Shri Govindajee Temple, Shri Bijoy Govindajee Temple – Shri Gopinath Temple – Shri Bungshibodon Temple – Shri Kaina Temple.	45.34	45.33
3.	Kerala	(2016-17)	Development of Sree Padmanabha Temple, Aranmula- Sabrimala	78.08	73.77
4.	Bihar	(2016-17)	Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj – Dharmshala- Deoghar	44.76	42.52
5.	Uttar Pradesh	(2016-17)	Development of Ahar-Aligarh-Kasganj-Sarosi (Unnao)-Pratapgarh- Kausambi-Mirzapur-Gorakhpur-Domariyaganj-Basti-Barabanki-Azamgarh-Kairana-Baghpat- Shahjahanpur	71.91	69.63
6.	Uttar Pradesh	(2016-17)	Development of Bijnor-Meerut- Kanpur- Kanpur Dehat- Banda- Ghazipur-Salempur- Ghosi- Balia- Ambedkar Nagar- Aligarh-Fatehpur- Deoria- Mahoba-Sonbhadra- Chandauli-Mishrikh- Bhadohi	67.51	64.14
7.	Rajasthan	(2016-17)	Development of Spiritual Circuit– 'Development of Churu (Salasar Balaji)-Jaipur (Shri Samodke Balaji, Ghatke Balaji, Bandheke Balaji)-Viratnagar (Bijak, Jainnasiya, Ambika Temple)- Bharatpur (Kaman Region)- Dholpur (Muchkund) - Mehndipur Balaji- Chittorgarh (Sanwaliyaji)	87.05	72.23
8.	Puducherry	(2017-18)	Development of Karaikal, Yanam and Puducherry	34.96	31.40
9.	Bihar	(2017-18)	Development of Mandar Hill & Ang Pradesh.	44.55	42.32
10	Maharashtra	(2018-19)	Development of Waki- Adasa-Dhapewada- Paradsingha-Chota Taj Bagh- Telankhandi-	45.47	43.19

			Girad		
11.	Uttar Pradesh	(2018-19)	Development of Jewar-Dadri-Sikandrabad-Noida-Khurja-Banda	12.03	11.43
12.	Uttar Pradesh	(2018-19)	Development of Gorakhnath Temple(Gorakhpur), Devipattan Temple (Balrampur) and Vatvashni Temple(Domariyaganj)	18.30	18.12
13.	Kerala	(2018-19)	Development Sivagiri Sree Narayana Guru Ashram-Arruvipuram-KunnumparaSreeSubrahmania-ChembazhanthiSree Narayana Gurukulam	66.42	42.01
Total				662.92	589.48

TIRTHANKAR CIRCUIT

(Amount in ₹ crore)

S. No.	Name of State	Year	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	Bihar	(2016-17)	Development of Vaishali-Arrah- Masad- Patna- Rajgir-Pawapuri- Champapuri.	33.96	30.04
Total				33.96	30.04

List of identified sites under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme.

S. No.	States/Union Territory	Destinations Selected/Identified
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Gandikota, Arakku-Lambasingi
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nacho, Mechuka
3.	Assam	Jorhat, Kokrajhar
4.	Bihar	Gaya, Nalanda
5.	Chhattisgarh	Bilaspur, Jagdalpur
6.	Goa	Porvorim, Colva
7.	Gujarat	Dholavira, Dwarka
8.	Haryana	Panchkula (Morni)
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Pong Dam
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	Basholi
11.	Jharkhand	Chandil
12.	Karnataka	Hampi, Mysuru
13.	Kerala	Kumarakom, Kozhikode (Beyepore)
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior, Chitrakoot

15.	Maharashtra	Sindhudurg, Ajanta-Ellora
16.	Manipur	Moirang (Bishnupur)
17.	Meghalaya	Shillong, Sohra
18.	Mizoram	Aizawl, Champhai
19.	Nagaland	Niuland, Chumukedima
20.	Odisha	Koraput, Debrigarh along with special attraction of 'khinda village'
21.	Punjab	Amritsar, Kapurthala
22.	Rajasthan	Bundi (Keshoraipatan), Jodhpur
23.	Sikkim	Gangtok, Gyalshing
24.	Tamil Nadu	Mamallapuram, The Nilgiris
25.	Telangana	Bhongir, Ananthagiri
26.	Tripura	Agartala, Unakoti
27.	Uttar Pradesh	Prayagraj, Naimisharanya
28.	Uttarakhand	Pittoragarh, Champavat
29.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh
30.	Lakshadweep	Lakshadweep
31.	Puducherry	Puducherry, Karaikal
32.	Ladakh	Leh, Kargil
	Total	57

List of identified Culture & Heritage and Spiritual Destinations under 'Challenge Based Destination Development', a sub-scheme under Swadesh Darshan 2.0.

Culture & Heritage Destinations

S. No.	Destination	State/UT
1.	Nagarjuna Sagar	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Bhagalpur	Bihar
3.	Saran Dist. (Sonapur Fair)	Bihar
4.	Kaza	Himachal Pradesh
5.	Bidar	Karnataka
6.	Varkala	Kerala
7.	Mandu	Madhya Pradesh
8.	Ahmednagar	Maharashtra
9.	Langthabal Konug	Manipur
10.	Mawphlang Village	Meghalaya
11.	White Town	Puducherry
12.	Ferozpur (Hussainiwala Border)	Punjab
13.	Thanjavur	Tamil Nadu
14.	Nalgonda	Telangana
15.	Mahoba	Uttar Pradesh
16.	Vadnagar	Gujarat

Spiritual Destinations

S. No.	Destination	State/UT
1.	Ahobilam	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Porbandar	Gujarat
3.	Ramrekha Dam	Jharkhand
4.	Thalassery	Kerala
5.	Orchha	Madhya Pradesh
6.	Nartiang Village	Meghalaya
7.	Impur Village	Nagaland
8.	Rupnagar(Anandpur Sahib)	Punjab
9.	Kabi, Mangan	Sikkim
10.	Rameswaram Island	Tamil Nadu
11.	Kainchidham	Uttarakhand

List of sanctioned projects under Swadesh Darshan 2.0

S. No.	State /UT	Destination	Interventions Name	Sanctioned Cost (In Cr.)
1	Karnataka	Hampi	Setting up of 'Traveller nooks'	26.30
2	Karnataka	Mysuru	Tonga ride Heritage experience zone	4.12
3	Tamil Nadu	Mamallapuram	Immersive experience at Shore Temple	30.02
4	Telangana	Bhongir	Bhongir Fort Experiential Zone	56.81
5	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior	Phoolbagh Experience zone	16.73
6	Rajasthan	Bundi	Spiritual Experience, Keshoraipatan	17.37
7	Sikkim	Gangtok	Gangtok Cultural Village	22.59
8	Telangana	Ananathagiri	Eco tourism zone at Ananathgiri forest	38.00
9	Punjab	Kapurthala	Eco Tourism experience at Kanjili wetland	20.06
10	Puducherry UT	Karaikal	Karaikal beach and waterfront experience	20.29
11	Uttarakhand	Pithoragarh	Rural Tourism Cluster Experience at Gunji	32.20
12	Uttarakhand	Champawat	Tea Garden Experience	11.21
13	Kerala	Kumarakom	Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary Experience	13.92
14	Meghalaya	Sohra	Meghalayan age Cave Experience	32.45
15	Andhra Pradesh	Araku-Lambasingi	Borra Cave Experience at Araku	29.87
16	Karnataka	Mysuru	Ecological Experience Zone	18.36

17	Arunachal Pradesh	Mechuka	Mechuka Cultural Haat	18.48
18	Assam	Kokrajhar	Kokrajhar Wetland Experience	26.67
19	Assam	Jorhat	Reimagining Cinnamara Tea Estate	23.91
20	Madhya Pradesh	Chitrakoot	Spritual experience through ghats of Chitrakoot	27.21
21	Sikkim	Gyalshing	Eco-Wellness Experience at Yuksom Cluster	15.40
22	Arunachal Pradesh	Nacho	Unlock Nacho Expedition	14.02
23	Uttar Pradesh	Naimisharanya	Vedic- wellness Experience	15.94
24	Arunachal Pradesh	Mechuka	Mechuka Adventure Park	12.75
25	Ladakh UT	Leh	Julley Leh Biodiversity Park	24.89
26	Ladakh UT	Kargil	Exploring LOC and Hundarman village Experience	12.01
27	Meghalaya	Sohra	Waterfall Trails experience	27.84
28	Uttar Pradesh	Prayagraj	Azad Park and Dekho Prayagraj Trail Experience	13.02
29	Nagaland	Chumoukedima	Tribal Cultural Experience at Midway Retreat	21.56
TOTAL				644/-
