

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1255
ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

PROMOTION OF RURAL TOURISM

1255 SHRI DORJEE TSHERING LEPCHA:

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

- (a) whether Government has not been able to develop rural tourism in North-Eastern Region including Sikkim to the desired extent though country has a huge potential, if so, details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) objectives and the success achieved since the inception of rural tourism schemes in Sikkim;
- (c) criteria adopted for providing central financial assistance for development of rural sites; and
- (d) details of funds sanctioned/released/utilized for rural tourism projects out of the proposals received during each of the last three years and the current year, indicating the status of completed projects, State /UT-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): Development and promotion of tourist destinations and products, including rural tourism, is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration.

The Ministry of Tourism through its central sector schemes of ‘Swadesh Darshan (SD)’, ‘Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)’ and ‘Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development’ complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development in the country by extending financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations including the State of Sikkim. Ministry of Tourism has revamped the Swadesh Darshan Scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD 2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations, following a destination & tourist-centric approach. The central financial assistance is being extended according to guidelines and based on proposals/detailed project reports received from the States and UT Governments.

The details of projects sanctioned under North East Circuit and Rural Circuit of the Swadesh Darshan scheme are given at Annexure.

The Government has approved the initiative to develop tribal home-stays under Swadesh Darshan Scheme, as part of ‘Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan’. The said intervention includes development of 1000 homestays with support of upto Rs.5 Lakh per unit (for new construction), up to Rs.3 Lakh (renovation) and Rs.5 Lakh for village community requirement.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1255 ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024 REGARDING PROMOTION OF RURAL TOURISM RAISED BY SHRI DORJEE TSHERING LEPCHA

NORTH-EAST INDIA CIRCUIT

(Amount in ₹ crore)

S. No.	Name of State	Year	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released	Status
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	(2014-15)	Development of Circuit at Bhalukpong- Bomdila and Tawang.	49.77	47.28	Complete
2.	Manipur	(2015-16)	Development of Circuit at Imphal- Khongjom	72.23	61.25	Complete
3.	Sikkim	(2015-16)	Development of Circuit linking Rangpo (entry) – Rorathang- Aritar- Phadamchen- Nathang- Sherathang- Tsongmo- Gangtok-Phodong- Mangan- Lachung- Yumthang- Lachen- Thangu-Gurudongmer- Mangan- Gangtok- TuminLingee- Singtam (exit).	98.05	97.41	Complete
4.	Mizoram	(2015-16)	Development of Thenzawl & South Zote, Districts Serchhip and Reiek	92.26	92.26	Complete
5.	Arunachal Pradesh	(2015-16)	Development of Jirigaon, Nafra, Seppa, Pappu, Pasa, Pakke Valleys, Lumdung, LafangSohung Lake, Taro Yar, New Sagalee, Ziro, Yomcha	96.72	91.88	Complete
6.	Tripura	(2015-16)	Development of North East Circuit: Agartala - Sipahijala - Melaghar - Udaipur - Amarpur- Tirthamukh- Mandirghat– Dumboor- NarikelKunja- Gandachara– Ambassa	82.85	77.76	Complete
7.	Meghalaya	(2016-17)	Development of Umium (Lake View), U Lum Sohpetbneng- Mawdiangdiang – Orchid Lake Resort.	99.13	99.11	Complete

8.	Sikkim	(2016-17)	Development of Tourist Circuit Linking Singtam–Maka- Temi- BermoikTokel- Phongia- Namchi –Jorthang- Okharey- Sombaria- Daramdin- Jorethang- Melli (Exit)	95.32	95.32	Complete
9.	Tripura	(2018-19)	Development of Surma Cherra- Unakoti- Jampui Hills- Gunabati- Bhunaneshwari- Matabari- Neermahal- Boxanagar- Chottakhola- Pilak- Avangchaarra	44.83	35.25	Complete
10.	Meghalaya	(2018-19)	Development of West Khasi Hills (Nongkhlaw- KremTiro - Khudoi&Kohmang Falls – Khri River- Mawthadraishan, Shillong), Jaintia Hills (Krang Suri Falls- Shyrmang- Iooksi), Garo Hills (Nokrek Reserve, KattaBeel, Siju Caves)	84.97	84.96	Complete
Total				816.13	782.48	

RURAL CIRCUIT

(Amount in ₹ crore)

S. No.	Name of State	Year	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released	Status
1.	Bihar	(2017-18)	Development of Gandhi Circuit: Bhitiharwa- Chandrahia- Turkaulia	44.27	40.31	Complete
2.	Kerala	(2018-19)	Development of Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism Project	57.35	45.88	Complete
			Total	101.62	86.19	
