

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1106
ANSWERED ON 13.02.2025

PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS TOURISM

1106 DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps for promotion of religious tourism at Sri Kshetra Dharmasthala in Karnataka and if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether Government plans to start a pilgrimage circuit connecting temples of Karnataka such as Udupi, Horanadu, Kateel, Kolluru, Kukke, Melkote, Mysore, Srirangapatna, etc., and if so, details thereof;
- (c) the list of new pilgrimage centres planned and under consideration of Government in Karnataka; and
- (d) whether Government has data regarding improvement of tourism infrastructure at temples of Karnataka using central financial assistance and if so, details of funds sanctioned and utilized during the last three years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): Development and promotion of tourism destinations and products including religious tourism is undertaken by the respective State Government (SG)/Union Territory Administration (UT). The Ministry complements the efforts of States/UTs by developing and promoting various tourism products of the country, including religious tourism in Karnataka through various schemes and initiatives.

The Ministry of Tourism through its ongoing schemes of 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' and 'Swadesh Darshan' complements the efforts of the State Governments (SGs)/UT Administrations (UTs) by extending financial assistance to SGs/UTs for tourism infrastructure development. The projects sanctioned under the above schemes are implemented by the respective State Government/UT Administration.

No proposal of a pilgrimage circuit for connecting temples of Karnataka such as Udupi, Horanadu, Kateel, Kolluru, Kukke, Melkote, Mysore, Srirangapatna, etc. is under consideration of the Ministry of Tourism. However, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned various projects under its different schemes in the State of Karnataka, the details of which are given in the annexure.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1106 ANSWERED ON 13.02.2025 REGARDING PROMOTION OF RELIGIOUS TOURISM RAISED BY DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE

Project sanctioned under PRASHAD Scheme:-

| Name of the project | Year of Sanction | Sanctioned cost (Rs. in Crore) |
|---|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Development of Pilgrimage Amenities at Sri Chamundeshwari Devi Temple | 2023-24 | 45.71 |

List of projects identified under PRASHAD Scheme:

1. Sri Renuka Yallamma Temple, Saudatti, Belagavi District
2. Papnash Temple, Bidar District

List of sanctioned projects under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 in Karnataka:

| Destination | Name of the Experience | Sanctioned Cost (₹ in Crore) |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Hampi | Setting up of 'Traveller nooks' | 25.64 |
| Mysuru | Tonga ride Heritage experience zone | 2.72 |
| Mysuru | Ecological Experience Zone | 18.47 |

List of destinations identified under Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)

| Destination | Category |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| Bidar | Culture & Heritage |
| Udupi | Ecotourism and Amrit Dharohar Sites |

Projects approved under Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI Scheme) in Karnataka:

| Name of the Project | Sanctioned Cost (₹ in Crore) |
|---|------------------------------|
| Ecotourism & Cultural Hub at Roerich and Devika Rani Estate Tataguni in Bengaluru | 99.17 |
| Development of Savadatti Yallamagudda in Belgavi | 100.00 |
