

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†2251
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2024**

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURIST CIRCUIT IN MADHYA PRADESH

†2251 SHRI DARSHAN SINGH CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government plans to develop Sanchi, Pachmarhi, Satpura Tiger Reserve and Dhuandhar Waterfall circuit in Central India into a world class tourist destination;**
- (b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard;**
- (c) whether there is a need to ensure interconnection of Kareli to Hoshangabad four lane highway and Jhirpa Matkuli road via-Chhindwara to Nagpur highway for proceeding better connectivity to make the said destinations tourist friendly with the help of Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways as it is likely to provide direct connectivity from Nagpur;**
- (d) whether the Government has taken any steps to develop tourist circuit with the help of other Ministries; and**
- (e) If so, whether such efforts are likely to be made for this Central India circuit also?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Tourism through its central sector schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan scheme (SDS)' and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' complements the efforts of the State Governments/UT Administrations by extending financial assistance to them for tourism infrastructure development. This assistance is provided in line with the scheme guidelines, stipulated procedures and in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations.

Under SDS scheme, the Ministry sanctioned 4 projects under different themes in the state of Madhya Pradesh, the details of which is as under:-

S. No.	Theme / Year of Sanction	Name of the project	Sanctioned Amount (₹ in crore)
1.	Wildlife Circuit 2015-16	Development of Wildlife Circuit at Panna- Mukundpur- Sanjay- Dubri- Bandhavgarh- Kanha- Mukki- Pench	92.10
2.	Buddhist Circuit 2016-17	Development of Sanchi-Satna-Rewa- Mandsaur-Dhar	74.02
3.	Heritage Circuit 2016-17	Development of Gwalior - Orchha - Khajuraho - Chanderi - Bhimbetka - Mandu	89.82
4.	Eco Circuit 2017-18	Development of Gandhisagar Dam- Mandleshwar Dam- Omkareshwar Dam- Indira Sagar Dam- Tawa Dam- Bargi Dam- Bheda Ghat- Bansagar Dam- Ken River	93.76

The Ministry of Tourism has recently revamped the scheme of Swadesh Darshan as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations in the country. Under this scheme, the Ministry of Tourism has selected 'Gwalior' and 'Chitrakoot' as destinations for development in Madhya Pradesh and has sanctioned the following projects at these destinations:-

Destination	Project/Experience	Sanctioned Amount (₹ in crore)
Gwalior	Phoolbagh Experience zone	16.73
Chitrakoot	Spiritual experience through ghats of Chitrakoot	27.21

The scheme guidelines of SD2.0 envisage preparation of Perspective Plan by the State Governments analysing tourism potential of various destinations including connectivity by air, rail & road, local travel and connectivity to any tourist circuit. The illustrative list of admissible components under SD2.0 scheme also includes interventions related to connectivity (last mile). In addition, the institutional framework of the scheme includes constitution of National Steering Committee (NSC) and Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC) with representation from various Ministries including of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. The Scheme also encourages the

States to establish synergy with other Central and State schemes while planning the development of the destinations and prioritize development of infrastructure pertaining to various line departments such as road, water supply and sewerage, transport etc.

The Ministry has also sanctioned 2 projects in Madhya Pradesh under PRASHAD Scheme i.e. 'Development of Amarkantak' for Rs.49.99 crore and 'Development of Omkareshwar' for Rs.43.93 crore. Under this scheme, the Ministry of Tourism has identified "'Shri Peetmbra Peetha', Datia District" and "'Shanidev Temple', Morena District" as sites for development in Madhya Pradesh.
