GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF TOURISM

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*96 ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM AT PACHAMALAI IN TRICHY DISTRICT

*96 THIRU ARUN NEHRU:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Pachamalai in Trichy district is a hilly area comprising mostly of Scheduled Tribes population;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to set up a small resort to kickstart tourism at Pachamalai in Trichy district to enable additional income for the local population, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*96 ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM AT PACHAMALAI IN TRICHY DISTRICT RAISED BY THIRU ARUN NEHRU.

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Tourism recognizes the importance of all tourism places in the country including Trichy in the State of Tamil Nadu. The Ministry under its 'Swadesh Darshan' and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development by extending financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations in consultation with them. Under the Swadesh Darshan scheme, the Ministry sanctioned a project 'Development of Chennai- Mamamallapuram – Rameshwaram – Manpadu – Kanyakumari' for Rs.73.13 Crore in 2016-17 under Coastal Circuit theme in the State of Tamil Nadu. The project is physically complete.

The Ministry has recently revamped the scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD 2.0) with the vision to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations in the country. As per the SD2.0 guidelines, the State Governments/UT Administrations prepare State Perspective Plans (SPP) analysing tourism potential of various destinations, based on the specified parameters and such destinations are shortlisted by the Ministry of Tourism for development under the scheme. The SPP submitted by the State Government of Tamil Nadu does not include Pachamalai in Trichy District. The Ministry has identified 57 destinations under SD2.0 for development in the country including 'Mamallapuram' & 'The Nilgiris' in Tamil Nadu and has sanctioned a project 'Immersive experience at Shore Temple' at Mamallapuram in Tamil Nadu for Rs.30.02 Crore.

In addition, the Ministry under its PRASHAD scheme has sanctioned the following projects in Tamil Nadu, which are physically complete:-

Project Name	Year of Sanction	Sanctioned Cost
		(Rs. In Crore)
Development of Kanchipuram	2016-17	13.99
Development of Velankanni	2016-17	4.86

There is no proposal before the Ministry of Tourism to set up a resort at Pachamalai in Trichy, Tamil Nadu.

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