

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4239
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2015
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER PRASAD SCHEME
Premachandran Shri N.K.;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide funding for implementation of Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) Scheme for the development of pilgrim sites;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government is allowing the involvement of private sector for implementation of the said scheme and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to include Sabarimala under PRASAD Scheme and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the said scheme is also inter-linked with the Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY) a scheme of Ministry of Urban Development; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) and (b): In the year 2014-15, a budget provision of Rs.100.00 crore was provided for National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD). The Revised Estimate (R.E.) provision for the scheme was reduced to Rs.15.60 crore.
- (c): Yes, Madam. The scheme guidelines provide for suitable public private partnership as well as the voluntary funding available for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives of Public Sector Undertaking (PSUs) and Corporate Sector.
- (d): Inclusion of important pilgrimage cities under the Scheme is a continues process and the same is subject to availability of funds.
- (e) and (f): Yes, Madam. Out of twelve identified cities under PRASAD ten cities namely Dwarka, Amritsar, Ajmer, Mathura, Varanasi, Gaya, Puri, Amravati, Kanchipuram and Vellankanni are common both in PRASAD and HRIDAY.