

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4719
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2014
NATIONAL MISSION ON PRASAD
Antony Shri Anto ;Tharoor Dr. Shashi

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated the details of the National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) announced in the Union Budget, 2014;
- (b) if so, the details of projects to be supported under the programme, State-wise;
- (c) whether the traditional pilgrimage sites of Sabarimala, Kurushimala and the Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple in the State of Kerala have been included under the programme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) to (d): The development, promotion, and identification of new tourism destinations is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration including the pilgrimage centers for the State of Kerala. However, the Ministry of Tourism (MOT) provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to various State Governments/Union Territory Administration for various tourism projects prioritized every year in consultation with them subject to availability of funds, inter-se priority and adherence to the scheme guidelines.

With a view to beautify and improve the amenities and infrastructure at pilgrimage centres of all faiths, a National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive (PRASAD) has been announced in the Union Budget 2014-15 and an amount of Rs.100.00 crore has been proposed for this initiative.

The Ministry of Tourism is formulating a new Scheme for implementation.