

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2544
ANSWERED ON 10.08.2023

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MAKE DARJEELING A WORLD TOURISM CENTRE

2544 SMT. SHANTA CHHETRI:

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

- (a) the financial assistance provided under the 'Swadesh Darshan', and 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' Schemes for the development of tourism related infrastructure in the State of West Bengal, particularly in Darjeeling;
- (b) the details of future schemes in planning; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Tourism under its schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan' and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' provides financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administration/Central Agencies in consultation with them, subject to adherence of scheme guidelines, availability of funds etc. for development of tourism infrastructure in the country including West Bengal. The detail of projects sanctioned in West Bengal under these schemes are as under:

(Amount in ₹crore)		
Year of Sanction/ Theme	Name of the Project	Amount Sanction
Swadesh Darshan		
2015-16/ Coastal Circuit	Development of Beach Circuit: Udaipur- Digha- Shankarpur- Tajpur- Mandarmani- Fraserganj-Bakkhlai- Henry Island	67.99
PRASHAD		
2016-17	Development of Belur Math	30.03

The Ministry of Tourism has revamped its 'Swadesh Darshan' scheme as 'Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0)' with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations. The Ministry of Tourism has identified 55 destinations for development under this scheme.
