

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1099**  
ANSWERED ON 13.02.2025

**WILDLIFE AND FOREST TOURISM IN ODISHA**

1099 SMT. SULATA DEO:  
SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI:

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

- (a) whether there is a huge potential for wildlife and forest tourism in the country, particularly in Odisha;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to tap the tourism potential in various States; and
- (c) the potential of Simlipal Tiger Reserve in Mayurbhanj district of Odisha for wildlife and forest tourism and the measures proposed or implemented to promote it as a major destination for eco-tourism?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): Yes. The Ministry of Tourism promotes India in a holistic manner, through various initiatives. As part of on-going activities; promotion of wildlife tourism in forest areas in the country, including Odisha, is also taken up. The Ministry of Tourism also regularly promotes wildlife tourism through its website and social media promotions.

In order to provide impetus for development of Ecotourism and wildlife tourism in the country, Ministry of Tourism has formulated a National Strategy for Development of Ecotourism in which the following strategic pillars have been identified:

- i. State Assessment and Ranking
- ii. State Strategy for Ecotourism
- iii. IEC Capacity Building and Certification
- iv. Marketing and Promotion
- v. Destination and Product Development
- vi. Public-Private and Community Partnerships
- vii. Governance and Institutional Framework

Ministry of Tourism under its scheme of Swadesh Darshan has identified thematic circuits for development, including Wildlife and Eco Circuits. These circuits cover National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Reserves in the country. The central financial assistance is being extended according to guidelines and based on proposals/detailed project reports received from the States and UT Governments.

The details of the projects sanctioned under the Eco and Wildlife Circuits of Swadesh Darshan Scheme in various States/UTs are given at Annexure.

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**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1099 ANSWERED ON 13.02.2025 REGARDING WILDLIFE AND FOREST TOURISM IN ODISHA RAISED BY SMT. SULATA DEO AND SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI**

**The list of the projects sanctioned under Eco and Wildlife Circuits of Swadesh Darshan scheme is as under:-**

**Wildlife Circuit****(Rs. in Crore)**

S. No.	State	Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released*
1.	Assam	2015-16	Development of Manas– Probitora– Nameri– Kaziranga– Dibru– Saikhowa	94.68	89.94
2.	Madhya Pradesh	2015-16	Development of Wildlife Circuit at Panna- Mukundpur- Sanjay- Dubri- Bandhavgarh- Kanha- Mukki- Pench	92.10	86.31

\* Includes amount released to CNA as per new financial procedure.

**Eco Circuit****(Rs. in Crore)**

S. No.	State	Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released*
1.	Jharkhand	2018-19	Development of Eco Tourism circuit: Dalma- Betla National park- Mirchaiya- Netarhat	30.44	28.04
2.	Kerala	2015-16	Development of Pathanamthitta- Gavi- Vagamon- Thekkady	64.08	64.08
3.	Madhya Pradesh	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	93.59
4.	Mizoram	Eco Circuit 2016-17	Development of Eco-Adventure Circuit Aizawl -Rawpuichhip – Khawhphawp – Lengpui – Chatlang- Sakawrhmutuaitlang - Muthee – Beratlawnng -Tuirial Airfield – Hmuifang	66.37	53.09
5.	Telangana	Eco Circuit 2015-16	Development of Eco Tourism Circuit in Mahaboobnagar district	91.62	91.25
6.	Uttarakhand	Eco Circuit 2015-16	Integrated Development of Eco-Tourism, Adventure Sports, and Associated Tourism Related Infrastructure for Development of Tehri Lake & Surroundings as New Destination-District Tehri	69.17	69.17

\* Includes amount released to CNA as per new financial procedure.

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