

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.130
ANSWERED ON 11.12.2025

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES FOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT

130 DR. VIKRAMJIT SINGH SAHNEY:

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

- (a) whether Government has selected 40 tourism projects under the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) scheme across 23 States and whether Punjab has received only one project in SBS Nagar;
- (b) whether Government proposes to allocate additional tourism projects to Punjab under the scheme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has identified any potential tourism circuits or heritage clusters in Punjab that may be considered for future allocations; and
- (e) whether Government would review the criteria to ensure equitable distribution of tourism projects to culturally rich States like Punjab?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

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

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.130 ANSWERED ON 11.12.2025 REGARDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES FOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT RAISED BY DR. VIKRAMJIT SINGH SAHNEY

(a) to (e): Government of India under the scheme ‘Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) – Development of Iconic Tourist Centres to Global Scale’ sanctioned 40 tourism projects in the country for Rs.3295.76 Crore including the project “Development of Heritage Street as a tribute to Shaheed-e-Azam, Sardar Bhaghat Singh at Khatkar Kalan in SBS Nagar” in the State of Punjab for ₹53.45 Crore during Financial Year (FY) 2024-25. Presently, there is no proposal under consideration to sanction more number of projects under this scheme. As per the operational guidelines of SASCI scheme, the projects submitted by the State Governments under the scheme were evaluated on challenge method and parameters of evaluation included connectivity to the site, existing tourism ecosystem, physical carrying capacity and its management, availability of utility services, project value and impact envisaged etc. As per the scheme guidelines, the projects are implemented and managed by the concerned State Government and projects are to be developed and completed within maximum 2 year’s period whereas Government of India will release funds under this scheme up to 31st March, 2026.

Identification, development and promotion of tourism destinations and products is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Government (SG)/Union Territory Administration (UTA). However, the Ministry of Tourism through its different schemes viz. ‘Swadesh Darshan (SD)’, ‘Swadesh Darshan 2.0’ (the revamped structure of SD scheme), ‘Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)’- a sub-scheme of Swadesh Darshan 2.0, ‘Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)’ and ‘Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development (ACATID)’ also provides financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations/ Central Agencies for development of tourism infrastructure and experiences in the country including the State of Punjab. This financial support is provided on receipt of the project proposal under the relevant scheme from the concerned State Government/ UT Administration/ Central Agency, in synergy with the relevant scheme guidelines, Government instructions, availability of funds etc. The details of the tourism infrastructure projects sanctioned under SD, SD2.0, CBDD, PRASHAD and ACATID in the state of Punjab is as under:-

Scheme/Sub-scheme/ initiative	Name of the project	Year of sanction	Amount Sanctioned (₹ Crore)
Swadesh Darshan	Development of Anandpur Sahib - Fatehgarh Sahib - Chamkaur Sahib - Ferozpur - Khatkar Kalan – Kalanour – Patiala (Heritage Circuit)	2018-19	85.32
Swadesh Darshan 2.0	Eco Tourism experience at Kanjli wetland	2023-24	20.06
	Border Tourism Experience at Attari	2023-24	25.91
Challenge Based Destination Development	Cultural and Heritage Strech at Hussainiwala Border, Ferozpur	2024-25	25.00
	Heritage street -A symbol of peace and Harmony at Sri Anandpur Sahib, Rupnagar	2024-25	24.90
PRASHAD	Development of Karuna Sagar Valmiki Sthal at Amritsar	2015-16	6.40
	Development of Chamkaur Sahib	2021-22	30.52
ACATID	Infrastructural Development at JCP Attari, Wagha Border	2018-19	12.87
	Restoration/ Renovation of ‘Jallianwala Bagh Memorial’ & Additional work to be taken at Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial at Amritsar, Punjab.	2018-19	23.02
	Amritsar Railway Station	2013-14	5.84
