

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†4115  
ANSWERED ON 27.03.2017**

**DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL TOURISM**

**†4115. SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:**

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

- (a) whether there is huge potential of developing rural tourism in the country;**
- (b) the number of districts/villages in the country which have been identified and developed as rural tourists places during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;**
- (c) whether the Government has received proposals/suggestions from various States and UTs in this regard; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated for this purpose?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)**

**(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

**(a) to (d): Recognising the potential of rural tourism in the country, Ministry of Tourism has identified Rural Circuit as one of the 13 thematic circuits under Swadesh Darshan Scheme to provide a unique experience to travellers visiting the country and, at the same time, develop lesser known destinations located in remote areas of the country.**

**The Projects for development of tourism related infrastructure, including rural tourism projects/proposals, are identified for development under the circuit in consultation with the State Governments/UTs and are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, submission of suitable detailed project reports, adherence of scheme guidelines and utilization of funds released earlier.**

**Rural Tourism projects at Kalhota Marmat in Doda District and Banimulla in Kulgam District of Jammu and Kashmir were sanctioned at a total cost of Rs.131.05 lakh in 2014-15 under the earlier scheme of Product Infrastructure Development of Destinations and Circuits, which has been delinked from Union Support with effect from 2015-16.**

**No project has been sanctioned under the Rural Circuit of Swadesh Darshan Scheme.**

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