

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.477  
ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023**

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF RURAL CIRCUITS**

**477.SHRI JUAL ORAM:**

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

- (a) the aims and objectives of Rural Circuits proposed by Government to promote tourism in rural areas of the country;**
- (b) the details of Rural Circuits identified in the country, particularly in the State of Odisha;**
- (c) the projects identified under the above circuit in the State of Odisha since implementation of the scheme, project-wise status and details thereof; and**
- (d) the timeline for completion of projects along with the allocation made during the last three financial years for rural circuits in the country?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM**

**(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

**(a) to (d): The Ministry of Tourism launched its 'Swadesh Darshan Scheme' in 2014-15 with the objective of integrated development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits in the country and Rural Tourism is one of the identified themes under the scheme for development. The objective of the scheme included creation of tourism infrastructure at the selected sites/destinations and to enhance visitor experience/satisfaction.**

**The Ministry of Tourism has not sanctioned any project under Rural Circuit of Swadesh Darshan scheme in the State of Odisha. However, a project 'Development of Gopalpur, Barkul, Satapada and Tampara' under coastal theme was sanctioned in Odisha for ₹70.82**

**crore in 2016-17 and ₹67.28 crore has been released. The State Government has submitted Utilization Certificate of ₹63.25 crore. The project has registered a physical progress of 94.72%.**

**The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned a total of 76 projects under Swadesh Darshan scheme including 02 projects under Rural circuit theme in the States of Bihar and Kerala. The details of these projects is annexed.**

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**ANNEXURE****STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.477 ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023 REGARDING AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF RURAL CIRCUITS****LIST OF SANCTIONED PROJECTS UNDER RURAL CIRCUIT THEME OF SWADESH DARSHAN SCHEME****(Amount in ₹ crore)**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of State</b>	<b>Year of sanction</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Amount Sanctioned</b>	<b>Amount Released*</b>	<b>Utilized Amount</b>	<b>Completion timeline</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Bihar</b>	<b>(2017-18)</b>	<b>Development of Gandhi Circuit: Bhitiharwa-Chandrahia-Turkaulia</b>	<b>44.27</b>	<b>39.96</b>	<b>35.72</b>	<b>Physically complete</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Kerala</b>	<b>(2018-19)</b>	<b>Development of Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism Project</b>	<b>57.35</b>	<b>30.98</b>	<b>20.74</b>	<b>Dec 23</b>

**\*includes amount released to Central Nodal Agency (CNA) as per new financial procedure.**

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