

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1310
ANSWERED ON 06.12.2021**

PROMOTION OF RURAL TOURISM IN BIHAR

**1310. SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY:
SHRI CHANDESHWAR PRASAD:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to promote rural tourism considering the immense potential in rural life to enhance the income of rural people;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government has invested sufficient funds for the development of rural tourism across the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Bihar ; and**
- (d) it so, the details thereof during each of the last three years?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (d): Rural tourism has been identified as one of the Niche Tourism areas for development in the country by the Ministry of Tourism.

Ministry of Tourism has formulated a Draft National Strategy and Roadmap for Rural Tourism, which, inter alia, focuses on developing and promoting local products through tourism subsequently resulting in generation of income and jobs in rural areas and empower local communities, youth and women, fulfilling the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

Recognising the potential of rural tourism in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has identified Rural Circuit as one of the fifteen thematic circuits for development under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme and is aimed at leveraging tourism as a force multiple for revitalizing the rural economy and for giving both domestic and international tourists a glimpse of rural aspect of the country. The projects/proposals for development of tourism related infrastructure, including rural tourism, are identified for development under the circuit in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations and are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, submission of suitable detailed project reports, adherence to scheme guidelines and utilization of funds released earlier.

The details of the projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism under the Rural Circuit theme of Swadesh Darshan Scheme in the country are given below:

(in Rs. Crores)

State/Year of sanction	Details	Amount Sanctioned
Bihar 2017-18	Development of Gandhi Circuit: Bhitiharwa- Chandrahia- Turkaulia	44.65
Kerala 2018-19	Development of Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism Project	80.37

No project has been sanctioned in the State of Andhra Pradesh under Rural Circuit of Swadesh Darshan Scheme.
