

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.147
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024**

OVERCROWDING AT TOURIST PLACES

147 ADV DEAN KURIAKOSE:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of crisis caused by overcrowding at popular tourist destinations;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof crises and the reasons therefor;**
- (c) the details of the steps taken by the Government to improve infrastructure; and**
- (d) whether the funds allocated by the Government for funding for educational campaigns and information dissemination initiatives aimed at promoting responsible?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): The Ministry under the budget allocation of existing schemes and programmes undertakes various initiatives to educate and sensitize masses and tourism stakeholders about the importance of responsible and sustainable tourism. The Ministry, with the objective to develop sustainable tourism destinations, has revamped its scheme of Swadesh Darshan as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 to provide financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations to develop tourism experiences, carrying capacity of destinations being a key focus area. The Ministry of Tourism has noted that due to unplanned and haphazard growth of tourism, many destinations are facing the adverse impact on local environment, culture and civic services which has led to over tourism, degradation of physical environment and alienation of local community at

many destinations. In order to minimize the negative impacts and maximise the positive impacts of tourism, sustainable and responsible tourism is the key under the Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme. The Scheme encourages to implement sustainable and responsible tourism practices in various projects and initiatives and adoption of principles of sustainable tourism including environmental sustainability, socio-cultural sustainability and economic sustainability. Under the Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme, the Ministry of Tourism has identified 57 destinations across 32 States/UTs for development and has sanctioned 29 projects, the details of which is annexed.

Understanding the impact of tourism on major natural and built environment, pressure on fragile ecosystems and considerable pressure on host communities, the Ministry of Tourism has envisaged Travel for LiFE (TFL), a program for tourism sector under Mission LiFE, to create awareness about sustainable tourism and to nudge the tourists and tourism businesses to adopt sustainable practices synchronous with nature. The program aims to mainstream sustainability into tourism and to develop a sustainable, responsible and resilient tourism sector, and focuses on circular economy and large scale behavioural changes.

The Ministry of Tourism has also formulated a National Strategy on Sustainable Tourism with the mission to increase the economic, social and environmental benefits to build a low carbon, inclusive and resilient tourism sector in India.

In addition, Green Tourism was identified as a priority area during the G-20 Tourism Ministers' meeting held at Goa in 2023.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.147 ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024 REGARDING OVERCROWDING AT TOURIST PLACES BY ADV DEAN KURIAKOSE.****List of 57 destinations identified for development under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme**

S. No.	States/Union Territory	Destinations Selected/Identified
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Gandikota, Araku-Lambasingi
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nacho, Mechuka
3.	Assam	Jorhat, Kokrajhar
4.	Bihar	Gaya, Nalanda
5.	Chhattisgarh	Bilaspur, Jagdalpur
6.	Goa	Porvorim, Colva
7.	Gujarat	Dholavira, Dwarka
8.	Haryana	Panchkula (Morni)
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Pong Dam
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	Basholi
11.	Jharkhand	Chandil
12.	Karnataka	Hampi, Mysuru
13.	Kerala	Kumarakom, Kozhikode (Beypore)
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior, Chitrakoot
15.	Maharashtra	Sindhudurg, Ajanta-Ellora
16.	Manipur	Moirang (Bishnupur)
17.	Meghalaya	Shillong, Sohra
18.	Mizoram	Aizawl, Champhai
19.	Nagaland	Niuland, Chumukedima
20.	Odisha	Koraput, Debrigarh along with special attraction of 'khinda village'
21.	Punjab	Amritsar, Kapurthala
22.	Rajasthan	Bundi (Keshoraipatan), Jodhpur
23.	Sikkim	Gangtok, Gyalshing
24.	Tamil Nadu	Mamallapuram, The Nilgiris
25.	Telangana	Bhongir, Ananthagiri
26.	Tripura	Agartala, Unakoti
27.	Uttar Pradesh	Prayagraj, Naimisharanya

28.	Uttarakhand	Pittoragarh, Champavat
29.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh
30.	Lakshadweep	Lakshadweep
31.	Puducherry	Puducherry, Karaikal
32.	Ladakh	Leh, Kargil
	Total	57

List of 29 sanctioned projects under Swadesh Darshan 2.0

S. No.	State /UT	Destination	Interventions Name	Sanctioned Cost (Rs. in Crore)
1	Karnataka	Hampi	Setting up of 'Traveller nooks'	26.30
2	Karnataka	Mysuru	Tonga ride Heritage experience zone	4.12
3	Tamil Nadu	Mamallapuram	Immersive experience at Shore Temple	30.02
4	Telangana	Bhongir	Bhongir Fort Experiential Zone	56.81
5	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior	Phoolbagh Experience zone	16.73
6	Rajasthan	Bundi	Spiritual Experience, Keshoraipatan	17.37
7	Sikkim	Gangtok	Gangtok Cultural Village	22.59
8	Telangana	Ananathagiri	Eco tourism zone at Ananathgiri forest	38.00
9	Punjab	Kapurthala	Eco Tourism experience at Kanjili wetland	20.06
10	Puducherry UT	Karaikal	Karaikal beach and waterfront experience	20.29
11	Uttarakhand	Pithoragarh	Rural Tourism Cluster Experience at Gunji	32.20
12	Uttarakhand	Champawat	Tea Garden Experience	11.21
13	Kerala	Kumarakom	Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary	13.92

			Experience	
14	Meghalaya	Sohra	Meghalayan age Cave Experience	32.45
15	Andhra Pradesh	Araku-Lambasingi	Borra Cave Experience at Araku	29.87
16	Karnataka	Mysuru	Ecological Experience Zone	18.36
17	Arunachal Pradesh	Mechuka	Mechuka Cultural Haat	18.48
18	Assam	Kokrajhar	Kokrajhar Wetland Experience	26.67
19	Assam	Jorhat	Reimagining Cinnamara Tea Estate	23.91
20	Madhya Pradesh	Chitrakoot	Spiritual experience through ghats of Chitrakoot	27.21
21	Sikkim	Gyalshing	Eco-Wellness Experience at Yuksom Cluster	15.40
22	Arunachal Pradesh	Nacho	Unlock Nacho Expedition	14.02
23	Uttar Pradesh	Naimisharanya	Vedic-wellness Experience	15.94
24	Arunachal Pradesh	Mechuka	Mechuka Adventure Park	12.75
25	Ladakh UT	Leh	Julley Leh Biodiversity Park	24.89
26	Ladakh UT	Kargil	Exploring LOC and Hundarman village Experience	12.01
27	Meghalaya	Sohra	Waterfall Trails experience	27.84
28	Uttar Pradesh	Prayagraj	Azad Park and Dekho Prayagraj Trail Experience	13.02
29	Nagaland	Chumoukedima	Tribal Cultural Experience at Midway Retreat	21.56
TOTAL				644.00
