

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2123
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2024**

VILLAGE TOURISM IN KHAJURAHO-PANNA

2123 SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is cognisant of the immense potential of village tourism in Khajuraho-Panna area, of Khajuraho Lok Sabha region, due to complementarities of Khajuraho group of temples and Panna Tiger Reserve;**
- (b) if so, whether the Government has any plans to promote village tourism in the area by developing model tourism villages or otherwise;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Tourism through its central sector scheme of 'Swadesh Darshan (SD)' complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development by extending financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations in consultation with them. The Ministry of Tourism under this scheme has sanctioned 4 projects under different themes in Madhya Pradesh including Khajuraho and Panna, the details of which is as under:-

(Amount in ₹ crore)

Sl. No.	Theme / Year of Sanction	Name of the project	Amount Sanctioned
1.	Wildlife Circuit 2015-16	Development of Wildlife Circuit at Panna- Mukundpur- Sanjay- Dubri- Bandhavgarh- Kanha- Mukki- Pench	92.10
2.	Buddhist Circuit 2016-17	Development of Sanchi-Satna-Rewa- Mandsaur-Dhar	74.02
3.	Heritage Circuit 2016-17	Development of Gwalior - Orchha - Khajuraho - Chanderi - Bhimbetka -	89.82

		Mandu	
4.	Eco Circuit 2017-18	Development of Gandhisagar Dam- Mandleshwar Dam- Omkareshwar Dam- Indira Sagar Dam- Tawa Dam- Bargi Dam- Bheda Ghat- Bansagar Dam- Ken River	93.76

The Ministry of Tourism promotes Rural Tourism through its various initiatives including the following:

- i. The Ministry of Tourism under this scheme has sanctioned 2 projects under the Rural Circuit theme as per the details given below:**

(Amount in ₹ crore)

State/Year of Sanction	Project Name	Amount sanctioned
Bihar/ 2017-18	Development of Bhitiharwa- Chandrahia- Turkaulia	44.27
Kerala/ 2018-19	Development of Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism Project	57.35

- ii The Ministry has now revamped its Swadesh Darshan scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations and has sanctioned 29 projects in the country including ‘Rural Tourism Cluster Experience at Gunji’ in Uttarakhand for Rs.32.20 crore.**

- iii The Ministry of Tourism under Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD), a sub-scheme of Swadesh Darshan scheme has identified 42 destinations in the country including the following 5 destinations under Vibrant Village category:**

State/ UT	Destination
Arunachal Pradesh	Kibitho
Himachal Pradesh	Rakchham, Chhitkul
Sikkim	Gnathang Village
Uttarakhand	Mana Village
Uttarakhand	Jadung

- iv. A National Strategy and Roadmap for the development of Rural Tourism in India and National Strategy for Promotion of Rural Homestays have been released.**

- v. The rural tourism village portal (www.rural.tourism.gov.in) has been developed to showcase the potential of Rural Tourism in India.**

- vi. The Ministry of Tourism launched the Best Tourism Villages Competition to honour a village that best exemplifies a tourism destination with renowned cultural and natural assets, preserves and promotes community-based values, goods, and lifestyles, and has a clear commitment to sustainability.**
- vii. The Ministry of Tourism participates in the United Nations World Tourism Organization's (UNWTO) Best Tourism Villages Competition.**
- viii. A Task Force for Development of Rural Tourism has also been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Secretary (Tourism) and comprising of representatives from identified Central Ministries/State Governments/UT Administrations and Industry Stakeholders.**
