

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.122  
ANSWERED ON 25.11.2024**

**DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN ODISHA UNDER SDS 2.0**

**122 SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:**

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

- (a) the details of sites selected by the Government for inclusion under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme (SDS) in the State of Odisha, particularly in the Keonjhar district for developing them as tourist destination in the country;**
- (b) whether the Government has sanctioned/released or proposes to sanction/release any fund for the development of these sites, particularly located in the Keonjhar district;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which funds are likely to be sanctioned/released;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to operationalize the Raisuan Airstrip also known as Kendujhar or Keonjhar Airstrip located at Gopinathpur in the Kendujhar district to promote tourism in the Kendujhar;**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government in this regard; and**
- (f) the details of other measures taken/being taken by the Government to promote tourism in the State of Odisha and particularly in Kendujhar?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)**

**(a) to (c): The Ministry of Tourism has recently revamped the scheme of Swadesh Darshan as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations in the country. Under this scheme, the Ministry of Tourism has identified 'Koraput' and 'Debrigarh along with special attraction of Khinda Village' in Odisha. The projects under the scheme are sanctioned on receipt of the suitable**

**project proposal from the State Government and subject to adherence to scheme guidelines, availability of funds etc. No project is sanctioned under SD2.0 in the State of Odisha, however, the Ministry of Tourism in 2016-17 sanctioned a project 'Development of Gopalpur, Barkul, Satapada and Tampara' under coastal circuit theme for Rs.70.82 Crore under Swadesh Darshan scheme.**

**(d) & (e): As per the information received from Ministry of Civil Aviation, Raisuan Airstrip in Keonjhar District of Odisha is listed in the tentative list of unserved airstrips in the UDAN Documents. Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN is a market driven Scheme wherein bidding rounds are conducted from time to time for covering more destinations and routes under the scheme. Revival/ Up-gradation of unserved airports is undertaken upon its identification through a valid bid and award to the Selected Airlines Operator (SAO). As of now, no proposal has been submitted by any airlines to operate flights to/from Raisuan Airstrip.**

**The Government is also taking various steps to promote tourism/connectivity in the State of Odisha. Resultantly, Jharsuguda, Rourkela, Utkela and Jeypore airports in the State of Odisha have already been operationalised under the UDAN Scheme.**

**(f): The Ministry of Tourism as part of its ongoing endeavour promotes various tourism destinations and products of the country including Odisha through promotional activities, events, website, social media promotions etc.**

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