

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.210  
ANSWERED ON 25.11.2024**

**LAUNCHING OF SWADESH DARSHAN SCHEME**

**210 SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL:**

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

- (a) the reason for the launch of Swadesh Darshan Scheme despite objections from the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance as per a CAG report;**
- (b) the reason for continual sanction for projects exceeding Rs.4,000 crore by 2016-17 without obtaining Cabinet approval, necessary for projects costing above Rs.1,000 crore;**
- (c) whether only 0.73% of the total scheme expenditure was allocated to the Rural circuit, despite it being one of the identified circuits, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (d) the steps being taken to address delays in project completion, with none of the 76 sanctioned projects completed within the stipulated time frame; and**
- (e) whether no meetings of the Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee and the Mission Directorate were held after November 2018 and October 2019 respectively and the manner in which it affected scheme implementation, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (e): The Ministry of Tourism launched its flagship scheme of Swadesh Darshan in 2014-15 and sanctioned a total number of 76 projects till 2018-19 with the approval of Cabinet. The projects under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme were sanctions on receipt of project proposals from the State Governments/UT Administrations and subject to its alignments with scheme guidelines, availability of funds etc. Under Swadesh Darshan Scheme, the Ministry sanctioned a total of 76 projects**

**for Rs.5287.90 Crore which includes 2 projects in Rural theme for Rs.101.62 Crore. In addition to above, the projects were also sanctioned under themes of similar nature such as Eco, Wildlife, Himalayan, Tribal, North-East etc. The Ministry of Tourism has revamped the Swadesh Darshan Scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations, following a destination & tourist-centric approach and has sanctioned 34 projects for Rs.793.20 Crore in the country. Swadesh Darshan Scheme focuses on developing projects in tier II and tier III destinations in the country and encourages the State Governments (SGs)/UT Administrations (UTs) to undertake sustainable tourism development, focus on Public Private Partnership (PPP) and operation and maintenance of the assets created.**

**In order to monitor and expedite progress of the projects and to guide the State Governments/UT Administrations, the Ministry of Tourism holds regular review meetings at different levels. Further, Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee and Mission Directorate meetings are also held as per requirement.**

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