

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.+3371
ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024**

TOURIST CENTRES IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

+3371. DR. RAJEEV BHARADWAJ:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to formulate any plan to build tourist centres in Himachal Pradesh;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to release funds to promote tourism related activities in the State of Himachal Pradesh; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (d): Development and promotion of tourism in the country is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Governments (SGs)/Union Territory Administrations (UTs). However, Ministry of Tourism complements the efforts of SGs/UTs by providing financial assistance under its 'Swadesh Darshan' and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' for development of tourism amenities on receipt of project proposals in line with the relevant scheme guidelines, availability of funds under relevant schemes etc. Under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, the Ministry had sanctioned 1 project in the State of Himachal Pradesh, as per the details given below:

S. No.	Circuit / Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned (₹ in Crore)
1.	Himalayan Circuit 2016-17	Development of Himalayan Circuit: Kiarighat, Shimla, Hatkoti, Manali, Kangra, Dharamshala, Bir, Palampur, Chamba	68.34

The Ministry has now revamped the Swadesh Darshan Scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0), with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations in the country and has identified 'Pong Dam' as a destination for development in the State of Himachal Pradesh under SD2.0. Further the Ministry of Tourism under 'Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD) has selected 'Kaza' in Culture and Heritage category and 'Rakchham, Chhitkul' in Vibrant Village Category as destinations for development.
