

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3448
ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024**

PROMOTION OF TOURISM AT KHAJURAHO GROUP OF TEMPLES

3448. SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is cognizant that Khajuraho group of temple has immense historical, cultural and tourism importance world over and these group of temples are also designated as UNESCO World Heritage site, which also happens to be in close proximity to famous Panna tiger reserve;**
- (b) if so, whether the Government has any special plans to promote tourism in this region, considering the high potential of tourism on one hand and developmental needs in this under- developed region;**
- (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): Yes Sir, Khajuraho group of temple has immense historical, cultural and tourism importance and is recognized as UNESCO World Heritage site.

The development and promotion of tourism destinations and products are primarily undertaken by the concerned State Governments (SGs)/Union Territory Administrations (UTs). However, the Ministry of Tourism through its ongoing schemes of “Swadesh Darshan” and “Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)” and “Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development” complements the efforts of the State Governments (SGs)/UT Administrations (UTs) by extending

financial assistance to SGs/UTs/Central Agencies for tourism infrastructure development at various tourism destinations in the country including Madhya Pradesh.

Under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned four projects in Madhya Pradesh including a project under the heritage circuit “Development of Gwalior – Orchha – Khajuraho – Chanderi – Bhimbetka – Mandu” and a project under the Wildlife Circuit “Development of Wildlife Circuit at Panna- Mukundpur- Sanjay- Dubri- Bandhavgarh- Kanha- Mukki- Pench”. The details of which are as under:

(in Rs. crore)

Name of the Circuit	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Physical Status
Wildlife Circuit	Development of Wildlife Circuit at Panna- Mukundpur- Sanjay- Dubri- Bandhavgarh- Kanha- Mukki- Pench	92.10	Complete
Heritage Circuit*	Development of Gwalior – Orchha – Khajuraho – Chanderi – Bhimbetka – Mandu	89.82	Complete

Under the Heritage Circuit* mentioned above a Convention Centre has been sanctioned at Khajuraho at a cost of Rs.34.99 Crore.

The Ministry of Tourism as part of its ongoing endeavour promotes various tourism destinations and products of the country including Madhya Pradesh through promotional activities, events, website, social media promotions etc.
