

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 16
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025

**SPECIAL PROGRAMMES FOR THE CONSERVATION AND PROMOTION OF
CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SITES IN PUNJAB**

16. SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched special programmes for the conservation and promotion of cultural and historical sites in Punjab, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any specific sites have been selected under these programmes and if so, the budget allocated for their development; and
- (c) whether the development of these sites has benefited the local communities and if so, the details of these benefits?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) takes up conservation and maintenance work of 33 protected monuments/sites including providing amenities in the state of Punjab as per the requirement and availability of resources. ASI conducts various cultural events from time to time specially during the World Heritage Day, World Heritage Week and various other important occasions to promote the cultural and Historical sites.

Development and promotion of tourism destinations and products is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Government /Union Territory Administration. The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to States/ UT Administration under its scheme 'Swadesh Darshan' and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' for tourism infrastructure development and recently sanctioned Scheme for "Special Assistance to States/Union Territories for Capital Investment (SASCI)-Development of Iconic Tourist Centers to Global Scale" for development of cultural and historical sites. The projects under the schemes are sanctioned on receipt of appropriate project proposals, its adherence to the Scheme Guidelines, availability of budget etc.

- (b) The details of funds allocated by ASI for conservation and maintenance works for the protected monuments/sites of Punjab State during the last four years are as under:

(Amount in Rs.)

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Amount Allocated
1.	2020-21	80,00,000
2.	2021-22	1,50,00,000
3.	2022-23	6,53,00,000
4.	2023-24	11,00,00,000

Apart from the above mentioned allocation, the details of the projects sanctioned in the State of Punjab under Ministry of Tourism through Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD Scheme and recently sanctioned Scheme for “Special Assistance to States/Union Territories for Capital Investment (SASCI) - Development of Iconic Tourist Centers to Global Scale” are attached at Annexure I.

- (c) Undertaking conservation and development works at ASI monuments help to enhance tourists/visitors experience and also create and increase employment opportunities and also strengthen local economy.

ANNEXURE - I**Swadesh Darshan Scheme**

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Circuit</u>	<u>Sanction Year</u>	<u>Name of the Project</u>	<u>Amount Sanctioned (₹ Cr.)</u>
1	Heritage Circuit	2018-19	Development of Anandpur Sahib - Fatehgarh Sahib - Chamkaur Sahib - Ferozpur - Khatkar Kalan – Kalanour - Patiala	85.32

PRASHAD Scheme

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Sanction Year</u>	<u>Approved Cost (₹ Cr.)</u>
1	Development of Karuna Sagar Valmiki Sthal at Amritsar	2015-16	6.40
2	Development of Chamkaur Sahib	2021-22	31.57

Scheme for Special Assistance to States/Union Territories for Capital Investment (SASCI) - Development of Iconic Tourist Centers to Global Scale

<u>Sl. No.</u>	<u>Name of the Project</u>	<u>Date of Sanction</u>	<u>Sanctioned Cost (₹ Cr.)</u>
1	Development of Heritage Street as a tribute to Shaheed-e-Azam, Sardar Bhagat Singh at Khatkar Kalan in SBS Nagar	26-11-2024	53.45