

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.108  
ANSWERED ON 01.12.2025**

**DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE IN ODISHA**

**108.SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the districts of Bargarh and Jharsuguda in western Odisha have immense potential for religious, cultural, eco and industrial tourism, yet remain under-developed due to lack of adequate tourist infrastructure;**
- (b) whether any proposals have been received from the State Government of Odisha for inclusion of sites like Nrusinghanath Temple, Gandhamardan Hills, Debrigarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Hirakud Backwater Eco-Tourism Zone and Jhadeswar Temple under centrally sponsored tourism development schemes;**
- (c) the details of the projects sanctioned or funds released under the Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD or Dekho Apna Desh programmes for these districts during the last five years;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to develop a “Western Odisha Cultural and Eco-Tourism Circuit” connecting Sambalpur, Bargarh, Jharsuguda and Balangir districts; and**
- (e) the details of the steps taken/being taken to promote sustainable, community-based tourism preserving local ecology, especially around Gandhamardan Hills and Hirakud reservoir?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM**

**(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)**

**(a) to (e): Development and promotion of tourism destinations and products is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Government (SG)/Union Territory Administration (UTA). However, the Ministry of Tourism through its different schemes provides financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations for development of tourism infrastructure and experiences in the country. The Ministry launched its Swadesh Darshan scheme in 2014-15 with the idea to develop tourism infrastructure under identified thematic circuits. The scheme has now been revamped as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0)**

**with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations. Further, Ministry has also sanctioned projects under ‘Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)’ and ‘Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD), a sub-scheme of Swadesh Darshan scheme. In addition, the Government of India under its ‘Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) – Development of Iconic Tourist Centres to Global Scale’ has also sanctioned projects in the country in Financial Year 2024-25, with the primary objective to comprehensively develop iconic tourist centres in the country, branding and marketing them at global scale. The projects under the above schemes are sanctioned on receipt of suitable project proposals from the concerned State Governments / UT Administrations, its alignment with scheme guidelines, availability of funds etc. Various aspects of sustainability and community engagement are also embedded in the scheme guidelines for SD2.0 and SASCI schemes.**

**The details of the projects sanctioned under SD, PRASHAD and SASCI schemes in the state of Odisha is annexed.**

**Presently there is no new proposal under consideration for sanctioning of projects in Odisha under the above mentioned schemes. Ministry of Tourism promotes various tourist destinations and products of the country including those in Odisha in a holistic manner including ‘Dekho Apna Desh’ initiatives. Such promotions are undertaken through various ongoing initiatives such as social media posts, promotional website, tourism related events, extending support to tourism related fairs and festivals, participation in road shows etc.**

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**ANNEXURE****STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.108 ANSWERED ON 01.12.2025 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE IN ODISHA RAISED BY SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT.**

**(i) Details of Project sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan Scheme in the State of Odisha:**

**(Amount in ₹Crore)**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Circuit / Sanction Year</b>	<b>Name of the Project</b>	<b>Sanctioned Cost</b>	<b>Amount Released / Authorized</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Coastal Circuit 2016-17</b>	<b>Development of Gopalpur, Barkul, Satapada and Tampara</b>	<b>70.82</b>	<b>67.28</b>

**(ii) Details of Project sanctioned under Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) Scheme in the State of Odisha:**

**(Amount in ₹Crore)**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Year of Sanction</b>	<b>Name of the Project</b>	<b>Sanctioned Cost</b>	<b>Amount Released</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>Development of Hirakund</b>	<b>99.90</b>	<b>131.92</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>Development of Satkosia</b>	<b>99.99</b>	

**(iii) Details of Project sanctioned under Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) Scheme in the State of Odisha:**

**(Amount in ₹Crore)**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Sanction Year</b>	<b>Sanction Amount</b>	<b>Amount Released</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Infrastructure Development at Puri, Shree Jagannath Dham - Ramachandi - Prachi River front at Demuli under Mega Circuit</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>10.00</b>

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