

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1728.
TO BE ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, THE 10TH FEBRUARY, 2026.**

CONSTRUCTION OF PM SHRI EKTA MALL IN GOA

1728. SHRI CAPTAIN VIRIATO FERNANDES:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the opposition against the Pradhan Mantri Ekta Mall on the Kadamba plateau in Chimbhel, Goa;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that the area where the mall is being forcefully pushed for construction is a hotspot of biodiversity and the sitting Biodiversity Management Committee of the Village Panchayat has staunchly opposed it;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of damage to the fresh water lake in the immediate vicinity and also the aquifers in the property earmarked for the mall;
- (d) whether the Government is likely to seek report from the State Government regarding the mall being forcefully built in tribal area; and
- (e) whether the Government is aware that previously an IT project was also scrapped due to the land belonging to tribals and the project would damage biodiversity?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)**

- (a) to (e):** Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has not received any communication on opposition to the Pradhan Mantri Ekta Mall in Goa.

The PM Ekta Mall aims to strengthen the 'Make in India' initiative while promoting the 'One District One Product' (ODOP). This initiative is designed to foster national integration and boost the local economy by providing artisans and rural manufacturers with a platform to showcase and sell their unique products. As per the 'Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2023-24 (SASCI)' issued by Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, one Ekta Mall per State to be setup preferably in the State-capital. The guidelines also have a provision for considering setting up of the Unity Mall in

the financial-capital or a prominent tourism Centre of the State. The land for the mall is made available by the State Government free of cost or the cost of acquisition of the land is borne by the State Government.

As per the information provided by the Government of Goa, the said project of Unity Mall is being taken up by the Department of Tourism, Government of Goa in the land owned by the Department of Tourism and it is not a tribal land. It has all required permissions from the authorities such as Technical Clearance from Town and Country Planning Department, Environmental Clearance Order, Forest Permission for Tree cutting, Goa State Pollution Control Board (GSPCB), Health etc. The said project is not in the hotspot of biodiversity area. The nearest notified wetland is 445 mts. away from the said location and in a different catchment area. The said project will not affect any fresh water lake or for that matter aquifers in the catchment and no water bodies will be affected. Further, scrapping of the IT project is not due to the land belonging to tribals or concerns about biodiversity damage.
