

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5844
ANSWERED ON 30.03.2026**

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN PUDUCHERRY

5844. SHRI VE VAITHILINGAM:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken a comprehensive assessment of Puducherry's tourism potential, including heritage tourism, coastal tourism, spiritual centres, French colonial architecture and eco-tourism assets;**
- (b) if so, the details of tourism infrastructure investments, marketing initiatives, heritage conservation grants and employment generation outcomes linked to tourism development in Puducherry; and**
- (c) the details of policy initiatives taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote sustainable tourism, enhance connectivity, preserve cultural heritage and position Puducherry as a globally competitive tourism destination?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): Development and promotion of tourism destinations and products including assessment of tourism potential in respect of its heritage, coastal, spiritual tourism potential etc. is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Governments (SGs)/Union Territory Administrations (UTAs).

However, the Ministry of Tourism through its schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan (SD)', 'Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0)', 'Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)' – a sub-scheme of SD2.0, and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development by extending financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations; subject to

adherence to scheme guidelines, submission of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) by them, availability of funds, Government directions, inter-se priority etc.

The details of project sanctioned by the Ministry under SD, SD2.0, CBDD and PRASHAD in Puducherry is annexed.

A range of components which may enhance tourism facilitation at the destinations are considered for sanctioning by Ministry of Tourism under its schemes, as per project requirement including those related to tourism core products, tourism activities, safety, sanitation, connectivity, parking, general site development, soft interventions etc. The Ministry encourages State Governments/UT Administrations to engage with local communities and ensure robust operation & management (O&M) of completed projects so as to increase footfall, generate local employment and enhance overall tourist satisfaction.

In addition, Ministry of Tourism through its multiple initiatives holistically promotes various tourism destinations and products of the country including heritage, culture tourism. Such promotions are undertaken through different marketing initiatives undertaken on various platforms, events, websites, social media promotions etc.

Government of Puducherry has informed that it has prepared a comprehensive destination master plan for development of tourism potential including Culture & Heritage, Coastal, Spiritual and Eco-tourism aspects.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5844 ANSWERED ON 30.03.2026 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN PUDUCHERRY RAISED BY SHRI VE VAITHILINGAM**

The details of the projects sanctioned under SD, SD2.0, CBDD, and PRASHAD in Puducherry:

Scheme	Name of the project	Year of Sanction/ Circuit	Sanction Amount (in ₹ Cr)
SD	Development of Dubrayapet – Arikamedu – Veerampattinam – Chunnambar - Nallavadu /Narambai - Manapet- Kalapet - Puducherry - Yanam	Coastal Circuit 2015-16	58.44
	Development of Franco- Tamil Village, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam	Heritage Circuit 2017-18	49.44
	Development of Spiritual Circuit in Puducherry	Spiritual Circuit 2017-18	34.96
Swadesh Darshan 2.0	Karaikal beach and waterfront experience	2023-24	20.30
CBDD	Development of White Town	2024-25	22.19
PRASHAD	Development of Pilgrim Facilites & Tourist attractions for Sri Dharbaranyeswara Temple	2024-25	25.94
