

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.954
ANSWERED ON 09.02.2021

ECO TOURISM CIRCUITS

954. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA:

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

- (a) the number of ecotourism circuits identified under the Swadesh Darshan scheme;
- (b) the number of such ecotourism destinations that are within or in close proximity to wildlife conservation areas and Protected Areas;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to reduce ecotourism related ecological damage at such destinations;
- (d) whether Government has identified any destination to be promoted as an ecotourism circuit in the state of Punjab and details thereof; and
- (e) whether State Government of Punjab has made any proposal for identification of ecotourism destinations under the scheme?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a): The Ministry of Tourism under Swadesh Darshan scheme has sanctioned a total of 76 projects to States / Union Territory / Central agency; including 6 projects under Eco Theme. List of the projects sanctioned under the theme of Eco Circuit is annexed.

(b) & (c): Identification, promotion and development of Tourism including Eco Tourism and obtaining necessary clearances for development of the ecotourism destinations that are within close proximity to wildlife conservation areas and protected areas is the responsibility of the State Governments/ Implementing Agencies. However, the Ministry of Tourism has been lying stress on maintenance of environmental integrity, considering the importance of developing tourism in an ecologically sustainable manner. The Ministry of Tourism has evolved Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India (STCI) for major segments of the tourism industry, namely accommodation, tour operators, beaches, backwaters, lakes and river sectors, etc. applicable for the entire country. The Criteria has been evolved after consultations with the various stakeholders. Ministry of Tourism has made it mandatory for the approved tourism service providers such as tour operators, adventure tour operators, travel agents etc. to follow the Code of Conduct for safe and sustainable Tourism.

(d) & (e): Consultation with the State Governments and sanctioning projects under Swadesh Darshan scheme is a continuous process however sanctioning of new projects under Swadesh Darshan scheme is under review. The Ministry of Tourism in the year 2018-19 has sanctioned a project 'Development of Anandpur Sahib – Fatehgarh Sahib – Chamkaur Sahib – Ferozpur – Amritsar – Khatkar Kalan – Kalanour – Patiala' in Punjab for an amount of Rs.91.55 Crore under Heritage Circuit.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.954 ANSWERED ON 09.02.2021 REGARDING ECO TOURISM CIRCUITS.

THE DETAILS OF PROJECTS SANCTIONED UNDER THE THEME OF ECO CIRCUIT IN SWADESH DARSHAN.

ECO-TOURISM CIRCUIT**(Amt. in crore)**

S. No.	Name of State	Project Name	Amount Sanctioned
1.	Uttarakhand	Development of Circuit at Tehri-Chamba- Sarain around Tehri Lake.	69.17
2.	Telangana	Development of Circuit in Mahaboobnagar districts (Somasila, Singotam, Kadalaivanam, Akkamahadevi, Egalanpanta, Farahabad, Uma Maheshwaram, Mallelatheertham)	91.62
3.	Kerala	Development of Pathanamthitta- Gavi-Vagamon- Thekkady.	76.55
4.	Mizoram	Development of Eco-Adventure Circuit at Aizawl -Rawpuichhip - Khawhphawp - Lengpui - Durtlang -Chatlang- Sakawrhmutuaitlang - Muthee - Beratlawng -Tuirial Airfield - Hmuifang	99.07
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Development of Gandhisagar Dam- Mandleshwar Dam- Omkareshwar Dam- Indira Sagar Dam- Tawa Dam- Bargi Dam- BhedaGhat- Bansagar Dam- Ken River	94.61
6.	Jharkhand	Development of Dalma- Chandil- Getalsud- BetlaNational park- Mirchaiya- Netarhat	52.72
