GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF TOURISM

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.+1002 ANSWERED ON 02.12.2024

CAG REPORT ON PROJECTS UNDER SDS

+1002. DR. RAJEEV BHARADWAJ:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any report has been submitted by the CAG on the work executed under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme (SDS) from the years 2015 to 2022;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the CAG had highlighted the shortcomings resulting in the non-completion of the projects on time under the said scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to remove these shortcomings?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (e): Comptroller and Auditor General of India has submitted its report on the performance audit of Swadesh Darshan scheme (Report No. 17 of 2023). The report covers observations on formulation of the scheme, financial management, implementation of the scheme, monitoring and impact assessment etc. Audit has observed delay in completion of projects and has also noted Covid-19 pandemic, non-availability of labour, natural calamities, non-availability of permission etc. as some of the reasons for delay.

Ministry of Tourism has taken multiple steps in order to address shortcomings resulting in delayed completion of the projects which include undertaking review meetings with the implementing agencies, regular communication with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to expedite completion of projects, monitoring of the project progress etc. Pre-construction clearances as part of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) has also been included in the guidelines for Swadesh Darshan 2.0.

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