

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2946
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2017
Creation of New Tourism Circuits
Mahendran Shri C.;Singh Dr. Bhola

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to create 50 tourism circuits including 13 Thematic Circuits to connect various destinations and to attract visitors across the country;
- (b) if so, the details of proposed/finalised Tourism Circuits so far, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the funds allocated and expenditure incurred during the last three years, year-wise;
- (d) whether the State Governments have been asked to identify locations for new tourism circuits and forward the same to Union Government for approval; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a): The Ministry of Tourism has launched the Swadesh Darshan Scheme - Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits scheme in the country in 2014-15. Under the scheme thirteen thematic circuits have been identified for development namely; North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit and Heritage Circuit.

(b): Since the launch of the Scheme in 2014-15, Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned 51 projects with Central Financial Assistance of Rs.4267.46 crores. The details of the projects sanctioned under the scheme are annexed.

(c): The details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred under Swadesh Darshan Scheme during the last three years are as under:

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(Rs. in crore)
Sr. No. Year Budget allocated Expenditure incurred
1 2014-15 20.00 20.00
2 2015-16 310.00 309.55
3 2016-17 972.40 774.40(*)

(*) As on 14.3.2017

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(d) and (e): Under the Scheme, the projects for development are identified in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations and are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, liquidation of pending utilization certificates, submission of suitable Detailed Project Report (DPR) and adherence to the scheme guidelines.
