



Boost to Tourism Development in Maharashtra under Swadesh Darshan 2.0

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The Union Ministry of Tourism has reiterated its commitment to strengthening tourism infrastructure and sustainable destination development in Maharashtra under the revamped Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD 2.0) and Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD) schemes. Under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 and CBDD, the Ministry has sanctioned 53 and 36 projects respectively in the whole country, with an aim to enhance visitor experience, strengthen infrastructure, and ensure community participation in tourism development.

Projects Sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 and CBDD in Maharashtra Swadesh Darshan 2.0

- o Project: Shivrushti Historical Theme Park – Phase 3
- o Year of Sanction: 2023–24
- o Sanctioned Cost: ₹76.22 crore

Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)

- o Project: Development of Ahmednagar Fort
- o Year of Sanction: 2024–25
- o Sanctioned Cost: ₹25.00 crore

The Ministry of Tourism has informed the State Governments/UT Administrations to complete the projects sanctioned under SD2.0 and CBDD initiatives by March, 2026.

The Ministry of Tourism in 2025-26 has also circulated the guidelines for 'Development of Homestays in Tribal Areas' under Swadesh Darshan scheme and template for formulation of proposal to the State Governments/UT Administrations. The initiative envisages to develop homestays in tribal areas to promote responsible tourism and enhance livelihood opportunities for tribal communities and encourage the stakeholders to adopt sustainable tourism practices in the tribal villages. It focuses on providing financial assistance of up to ₹5 lakh for village community requirements, up to ₹5 lakh for the construction of two new rooms for each household, and up to ₹3 lakh for the renovation of existing rooms for each household.

This was stated in a written reply by the Union Minister for Culture and Tourism, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat in the Lok Sabha on Monday (November 8, 2025) in response to a question asked by MP Shri Gowaal Padavi.

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