

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*308
ANSWERED ON 10.08.2026**

**DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN
THE NORTH-EASTERN REGION**

***308 SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the North-Eastern Region (NER) has high tourism potential due to its natural beauty, cultural diversity and heritage sites;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has implemented any new schemes or plans to attract domestic and international tourists in the NER;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the initiatives undertaken under various Central Schemes;**
- (e) whether the Government has any proposed plan to ensure cleanliness at tourist destinations, provide seamless travel across North-Eastern States and develop basic infrastructure with modern amenities in the region; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (F) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*308 ANSWERED ON 10.08.2026 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN THE NORTH-EASTERN REGION RAISED BY SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA

(a) to (b): Yes. The State wise Tourist Footfall annexed at ANNEXURE-I.

(c) to (f): Ministry of Tourism as part of its ongoing endeavour, promotes various tourism destinations and products of India including the states of North Eastern region in a holistic manner, through various initiatives including promotional events, assistance to State Governments/UT Administrations for organising fairs and festivals, participation in exhibitions, websites, social media etc.

The Ministry of Tourism has been organizing International Tourism Mart (ITM) in the North Eastern Region since 2013. The ITM is an annual event designed to highlight the tourism potential of the North Eastern region for both domestic and international audiences. This event serves as a vital platform, bringing together tourism businesses and entrepreneurs from the eight North Eastern States—Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, and Sikkim—to foster collaboration and interactions among buyers, sellers, media, government agencies, and other stakeholders. The latest ITM was held at Gangtok, Sikkim, from 13-16 November 2025. In addition to this the followings steps including the initiatives under various central schemes as under:

(i) Incredible India Digital Platform-The Ministry of Tourism revamped the Incredible India website as IIDP in September 2024 to engage the visitors across web and social media platforms. The content on the Incredible India Website is available in Hindi, English and UN languages.

The website features tourism destination in the North East States to promote tourism in NER.

(ii) The Ministry of Tourism promotes various tourism sites and products in North East Region in the domestic and international markets. Creative posts, Live sessions, Tweets etc., on North East destinations are posted on regular basis on the social media handles of the Ministry of Tourism. In addition, the Ministry of Tourism also produces promotional material showcasing the tourist destinations and products in North Eastern States.

(iii) Central Financial Assistance (CFA) support for organizing fairs & festivals- Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to State Governments/UT Administrations for organising fairs / festivals and Tourism related events under the DPPH scheme. The list of North East States to which the financial support for organizing fairs and festivals has been extended is at Annexure-II.

(iv) Ministry of Tourism under the schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan', 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)', 'Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development' provides financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations/Central Agencies, Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI Scheme), Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD) for the development of tourism related infrastructure and facilities at various tourism destinations in the country including North Eastern Region. The Ministry of Tourism has now revamped the Swadesh Darshan Scheme as Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD 2.0) with the objective to develop sustainable

and responsible tourism destinations, following a destination & tourism centric approach. The details of projects sanctioned under the above-mentioned schemes in North Eastern region are given at Annexure-III.

Ministry of Tourism implements the Swachhta Action Plan (SAP) in coordination with the Department of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti. Under SAP, the Ministry conducts cleanliness-awareness programmes, including in the North Eastern States. During 2025-26, 200 SAP activities were organized through IITTM, Central IHMs, State IHMs and FCIs under the following categories of (i) Tourist Awareness (ii) Students Awareness (iii) Stakeholders Awareness. Additionally, as directed by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, the Ministry of Tourism observes Swachhta Pakhwada and Swachhta Hi Sewa (SHS) every year in September and October. In 2025, 277 activities under Swachhta Pakhwada and 244 activities under SHS were carried out across India, including the North Eastern Region.

For effective air connectivity at PAN Indian basis including the States of NER, the Ministry of Civil Aviation launched the RCS-UDAN scheme to make regional air travel affordable, and the Ministry of Tourism has collaborated with it by extending Viability Gap Funding under the Champion Service Sector Scheme to improve air links to key tourist locations, including in the North Eastern Region. Under this initiative, the following NER routes have been included as Tourism RCS routes: Dibrugarh-Dimapur, Dimapur-Dibrugarh, Dimapur-Imphal, Imphal-Dimapur, Agartala-Aizawl, Aizawl-Agartala, Dibrugarh-Imphal, Imphal-Dibrugarh, Hollongi-Guwahati and Guwahati-Hollongi.

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (B) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*308 ANSWERED ON 10.08.2026 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN THE NORTH-EASTERN REGION RAISED BY SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA

Tourist Footfall in North-Eastern Region (NER) in 2025			
S. No.	Name of State	Domestic Tourist Visits (DTV's)	Foreign Tourist Visits (FTV's)
1	Arunachal Pradesh	913383	4582
2	Assam	9055943	33858
3	Manipur	25281	2892
4	Meghalaya	1848239	7116
5	Mizoram	828223	11484
6	Nagaland	127428	5425
7	Sikkim	1654838	68992
8	Tripura	681103	27320
Tourist Footfall in NER for January-June, 2026			
S. No.	Name of State	DTV's	FTV's
1	Arunachal Pradesh	627084	2372
2	Assam	4604112	32471
3	Manipur	12744	1219
4	Meghalaya*	515320	2516
5	Mizoram	494362	7389
6	Nagaland	27305	1131
7	Sikkim	2352725	43734
8	Tripura	384453	9424
Source: State Tourism Department			
*Data received from State of Meghalaya for January to March 2026			

ANNEXURE-II**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (C) TO (F) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*308 ANSWERED ON 10.08.2026 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN THE NORTH-EASTERN REGION RAISED BY SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA****State wise list of fairs and festivals for which CFA was extended under DPPH Scheme****(in ₹ Lakh)**

Name of state	Year	Name of Fairs & Festivals	Amount sanctioned
Assam	2016-17	(i) Rass Mahotsav, Majuli (ii) Bodo National Festival (iii) Rongali Festival	35.00
	2018-19	International Buddhist conference	25.00
		Rongali festival	25.00
	2021-22	Bhogali Festival	25.00
		Rongoli festivals	25.00
Arunachal Pradesh	2014-15	Nyokum Festival	14.00
	2015-16	(i) Kameng River Eco-Tourism Festival (ii) Menchuka Adventure Festival and (iii) Orange Festival Dambuk	30.00
	2017-18	(i) Tawang Festival(ii)Menchuka Adventure Festival (iii) Orange Festival Dambuk	40.00
	2018-19	Basar Confluence 3.0 Festival	20.00
	2019-20	River Tribe's Angling Festival	25.00
		Butterfly Meet at MIAO	25.00
	2020-21	Pedal to Pakke	25.00
	2021-22	Easterly Essence Ledum Festival	25.00
		Orange Festival of Music and Adventure	25.00
	2022-23	Si Donyi Festival	25.00
		Orange Festival	25.00
	2024-25	Aroma of Arunachal Festival	50.00

	2025-26	Eco Harmony	30.00
		Fest of Arunachal	50.00
Manipur	2014-15	Manipuri Festival and Youth, Adventure & Water sports festival	50.00
	2015-16	Manipur Sangai Festival and Youth, Adventure and Water Sports Festival Manipur 2015	50.00
	2016-17	Manipur Sangai Festival, and Youth Adventure and Water Adventure sports festival	50.00
	2017-18	Manipur Sangai Festival and "Youth Adventure & Water Sports Festival	50.00
	2019-20	Sangai Festival	25.00
		Youth Adventure & Water Sports festival	25.00
Meghalaya	2016-17	Wangala Dance Festival and Nongkrem Dance Festival	42.22
	2017-18	Wangala Dance Festival, Nongkrem Dance Festival and Lasubon Festival	50.00
	2018-19	Wangala Dance Festival and Nongkrem Dance Festival	50.00
	2019-20	Wangala Dance	25.00
		Nongkrem Dance Festival	25.00
	2021-22	Wangala Dance	25.00
		Nongkrem Dance Festival	25.00
	2022-23	Wangala Dance	25.00
		Nongkrem Dance Festival	25.00
	2023-24	Nongkrem Dance Festival	25.00
	2024-25	The 100 Drums Wangala Dance Festival 2024	25.00
		The Nongkrem Dance Festival 2024	16.00
	2025-26	100 Drums Wangala Dance Festival	40.00
		Nongkrem Dance Festival	40.00
Mizoram	2014-15	Anthurium Festival,	25.00
		Thalfavang Kut festival	25.00

	2015-16	Anthurium Festival	25.00
		ThalfavangKut Festival	25.00
	2017-18	Winter Festival	25.00
		Chapchar Kut	25.00
	2018-19	Chapchar Kut Festival	25.00
	2019-20	Anthurium Festival	25.00
		Winter Festival	25.00
	2020-21	Anthurium Festival	25.00
		Winter Festival	25.00
	2021-22	Anthurium Festival	25.00
		Winter Festival	25.00
	2022-23	Anthurium Festival	25.00
		Winter Festival	25.00
	2024-25	Winter Festival 2024	25.00
		Leitlanpui Music Festival 2024	25.00
	2025-26	Mizoram Travel Fest	30.00
		Leitlanpui Music Festival	25.00
		Winter Festival	25.00
Nagaland	2014-15	Hornbil Festival, 2014	25.00
	2016-17	Hornbill Festival	25.00
	2017-18	Sekrenyi Festival, Hornbill Festival, Rengma's Ngadah Festival	50.00
	2019-20	Hornbill Festival	25.00
		Thuwu-Ni Festival	10.00
		Sukhrunye Festival	15.00
	2021-22	Hornbill Festival	20.00
		The Angami's Sekrenyi Festival	10.00
	2022-23	Ahuna Festival	5.00
		Runa Festival	5.00
		Sekrenyi Festival	5.00
		Autumn Festival at Nagaland House Kolkata	5.00
		Autumn Festival at Nagaland House New Delhi	5.00
		Hornbill Festival	25.00
	2023-24	Autumn Festival at Nagaland House, New Delhi	10.00
		Cuisine and Music Festival at Naga Heritage Village, Kisama	25.00

	2024-25	Autumn Festival at Nagaland House	30.00
		Traditional Food & Folk Music Festival at Dimapur	25.00
		Cultural Fair at Tzurang Valley, Mokuchung District	25.00
	2025-26	Autumn Fest	25.00
		Naga Wrestling	25.00
		Cultural Folk and Music festival	30.00
Sikkim	2015-16	World Tourism Day, Gangtok Sikkim Winter Carnival, Gangtok,	44.00
	2016-17	World Tourism Day, Gangtok	25.00
		Red Panda Winter Festival, Gangtok	25.00
	2017-18	World Tourism Day, Gangtok	25.00
		Red Panda Winter festival, Gangtok	25.00
	2018-19	World Tourism Day	25.00
		Red Panda Festival, Gangtok	25.00
	2019-20	World Tourism Day, Gangtok	25.00
		Red Panda Winter Festival	25.00
	2020-21	Red Panda Winter Carnival	25.00
		Jorethang Maghey Mela	12.50
		Pelling Winter Tourism Festival	12.50
	2021-22	Cherry Temi Tea & Tourism Festival Temi Tea Gardens South Sikkim	12.50
		Khangchendzonga Winter Carnival Festival	12.50
		Jorethang Maghey Mela	25.00
	2025-26	Lampokhri Festival	20.00
Tripura	2016-17	Neermahal Festival at Rajghat, Melaghar in Sepahijala District Devali Festival at Maabari, Udaipur in Gomati District Pilak Festival at Julaibari Santirbazar in South Tripura	18.00
	2019-20	Kharchi Mela	25.00

		Neermahal Festival	2.00
		Diwali Mela	15.00
	2020-21	Bharat Bangla Festival	25.00
	2022-23	Neermahal Festival	10.00
		Diwali Festival	5.00
		Chabimura Festival	5.00
	2023-24	Neermahal Festival	9.80
		Diwali Festival	9.55
		Chabimura Festival	3.00
	2024-25	Diwali Festival	20.00
		Chabimura & Tirthamukh Festival	12.00
		Ashokastami Festival	5.00
		Chapchar Kut Festival	5.00
	2025-26	Neermahal Festival	30.00
		Diwali Festival	30.00
		Chabimura & Tirthamukh Festival	20.00

ANNEXURE-III**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (C) TO (F) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*308 ANSWERED ON 10.08.2026 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM IN THE NORTH-EASTERN REGION RAISED BY SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA****List of sanctioned projects under Swadesh Darshan**

S. No.	State/UT	Circuit/ Sanction Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned (in ₹ Crore)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	North-East 2014-15	Development of Bhalukpong-Bomdila and Tawang	49.77
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	North-East 2015-16	Development of Nafra-Seppa-Pappu, Pasa, Pakke Valleys-Sangdupota- New Sagalee-Ziro- Yomcha	96.72
3.	Assam	Wildlife 2015-16	Development of Manas- Probitora- Nameri- Kaziranga- Dibru-Saikhowa	94.68
4.	Assam	Heritage 2016-17	Development of Tezpur – Majuli – Sibsagar	90.98
5.	Manipur	North-East 2015-16	Development of Tourist Circuit in Manipur: Imphal-Khongjom	72.23
6.	Manipur	Spiritual 2016-17	Development of Shri Govindajee Temple, Shri Bijoy Govindajee Temple – Shri Gopinath Temple – Shri Bungshibodon Temple – Shri Kaina Temple	45.34
7.	Meghalaya	North-East 2016-17	Development of Umium (Lake View), U Lum Sohpetbneng-Mawdiangdiang – Orchid Lake Resort	99.13

8.	Meghalaya	North-East 2018-19	Development of West Khasi Hills (Nongkhlaw-KremTiro – Khudoi & Kohmang Falls – Khri River- Mawthadraishan, Shillong), Jaintia Hills (Krang Suri Falls-Shyrmang- looksi), Garo Hills (Nokrek Reserve, Katta Beel, Siju Caves)	84.97
9.	Mizoram	North-East 2015-16	Development of Thenzawl & South Zote, District Serchhip and Reiek.	92.26
10.	Mizoram	Eco 2016-17	Development of Eco Adventure Circuit Aizawl- Rawpuichhip– Khawhphawp – Lengpui – Chatlang- Sakawrhmutuaitlang -Muthee–Beratlawng– Tuirial Airfield – Hmuifang	66.37
11.	Nagaland	Tribal 2015-16	Development of Tribal Circuit Peren- Kohima-Wokha	97.36
12.	Nagaland	Tribal 2016-17	Development of Mokokchung - Tuensang-Mon	98.14
13.	Sikkim	North-East 2015-16	Development of Tourist Circuit linking Rangpo (entry)–Rorathang-Aritar- Phadamchen-Nathang- Sherathang-Tsongmo- Gangtok-Phodong-Mangan- Lachung Yumthang-Lachen- Thangu Gurudongmer- Mangan-Gangtok-Tumin Lingee- Singtam (exit)	98.05
14.	Sikkim	North-East 2016-17	Development of Tourist Circuit Linking Singtam– Maka- Temi- BermoikTokel- Phongia-Namchi –Jorthang- Okharey- Sombaria- Daramdin- Jorethang-Melli (Exit)	95.32

15.	Tripura	North-East 2015-16	Development of Agartala – Sipahijala– Melaghar Udaipur- Amarpur- Tirthamukh- Mandirghat– Dumboor-Narikel Kunja- Gandachara– Ambassa	82.85
16.	Tripura	North-East 2018-19	Development of Surma Cherra- Unakoti-Jampui Hills- Gunabati -Bhunaneshwari- Neermahal- Boxanagar- Chottakhola- Pilak- Avangchaarra	44.83

List of sanctioned projects under Swadesh Darshan 2.0

S. No.	State	Destination	Name of the Experience	Sanction Date	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)
1	Arunachal Pradesh	Mechuka	Mechuka Adventure Park	05.03.2024	12.75
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Mechuka	Mechuka Cultural Haat	05.03.2024	18.48
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Nacho	Unlock Nacho Expedition	05.03.2024	14.02
4	Assam	Kokrajhar	Kokrajhar Wetland Experience	05.03.2024	26.68
5	Assam	Jorhat	Reimagining Cinnamara Tea Estate	05.03.2024	23.88
6	Meghalaya	Sohra	Waterfall Trails Experience	05.03.2024	27.61
7	Meghalaya	Sohra	Meghalayan Age Cave Experience	04.03.2024	32.45
8	Mizoram	Champhai	Eco Resort Experience at Keilungliah, Zote, Ngur & Mualbuhvum, Champhai	29.03.2025	38.85
9	Mizoram	Champhai	Heritage and	29.03.2025	33.87

			Cultural Centre, Champhai		
10	Mizoram	Aizawl	Construction of Conference Centre	10.11.2025	99.71
11	Nagaland	Chumoukedima	Adventure Tourism Experience at Jacob Village, Chumou kediema	29.03.2025	32.54
12	Nagaland	Chumoukedima	Eco-Tourism Exp at Chumoukedima viewpoint	20.08.2024	7.87
13	Nagaland	Chumoukedima	Tribal Cultural Experience at Midway Retreat	05.03.2024	21.57
14	Sikkim	Gyalshing	Eco-Wellness Experience at Yuksom Cluster	05.03.2024	15.41
15	Sikkim	Gangtok	Gangtok Cultural Village	29.02.2024	22.60
16	Tripura	Agartala	Tripura Heritage Village & Sangeet Experience at Agartala (Phase-1 &2)	29.03.2025	48.95

List of sanctioned projects under CBDD

S. No.	State	Destination / Category	Name of the Experience	Sanction Date	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)
1	Arunachal Pradesh	Kibitho (Vibrant Village	Kibhito Frontier Tourism - Gateway to	27.03.2025	4.96

		Programme)	Serenity		
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Bichom Dam Site (Ecotourism and Amrit Dharohar Sites)	Bichom Dam Adventure & Eco-Tourism Project	27.03.2025	9.90
3	Assam	Sivasagar (Ecotourism and Amrit Dharohar Sites)	Panidhing Bird Sanctuary	27.03.2025	9.99
4	Manipur	Langthabal Konug, Imphal (Culture & Heritage)	Development of Ancient Capital of Manipur, Langthabal Konug	17.03.2025	24.69
5	Meghalaya	Nartiang Village (Spiritual Tourism)	Nartiang Spiritual & Cultural Centre	17.03.2025	24.87
6	Meghalaya	Mawphlang Village (Culture & Heritage)	Mawphlang Cultural & Heritage Centre	17.03.2025	24.87
7	Nagaland	Impur Village (Spiritual Tourism)	Soulful Trails: The Impur Heritage Experience	17.03.2025	24.94
8	Nagaland	Doyang Reservoir (Ecotourism and Amrit Dharohar Sites)	Wings Over Doyang: An Eco-Tourism Haven	17.03.2025	9.99
9	Sikkim	Kabi (Spiritual	Kabi Chronicles: A journey	17.03.2025	24.96

		Tourism)	through Unity and Heritage		
10	Sikkim	Gnathang Village (Vibrant Village Programme)	Echoes of Valor:The Gnathang Valley Experience	17.03.2025	5.00

List of sanctioned projects under SASCI as on 08.06.2026

S. No.	State	Year of Sanction	Name of the Project	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	2024-25	Siang Adventure & Eco-Retreat in Pasighat	46.48
2.	Assam	2024-25	Assam State Zoo Cum Botanical Garden in Guwahati	97.12
3.	Assam	2024-25	Beautification of Rang Ghar in Sivasagar	94.76
4.	Manipur	2024-25	Loktak Lake Experience in Loktak	89.48
5.	Meghalaya	2024-25	MICE Infrastructure in Mawkhanu	99.27
6.	Meghalaya	2024-25	Redevelopment of Umiam Lake in Shillong	99.27
7.	Sikkim	2024-25	Skywalk, Bhaleydhunga, Yangang in Namchi	97.37
8.	Sikkim	2024-25	Border Experience in Nathula	68.19
9.	Tripura	2024-25	Shakti Peethas Park at Banduar in Gomati	97.70

List of sanctioned projects under PRASHAD Scheme

S. No.	State	Sanction Year	Project Name	Sanction Amount (in ₹ Crore)
1	Arunachal Pradesh	2020-21	Development of Parshuram Kund, Lohit Distt.	37.88
2	Assam	2015-16	Development of Kamakhya	29.80

			Temple and Pilgrimage Destination in and around Guwahati	
3	Meghalaya	2020-21	Development of Pilgrimage Facilitation in Meghalaya	29.29
4	Mizoram	2022-23	Development of Infrastructure for Pilgrimage and Heritage Tourism in the State of Mizoram	44.89
5	Mizoram	2024-25	Development of Basic Amenities under PRASHAD scheme in Vangchhia, Champhai District	5.47
6	Nagaland	2018-19	Development of Pilgrimage Infrastructure in Nagaland	25.20
7	Nagaland	2022-23	Development of Pilgrimage Tourism Infrastructure at Zunheboto	18.18
8	Sikkim	2020-21	Development of Pilgrimage Facilitation at Four Patron Saints, Yuxsom	33.32
9	Tripura	2020-21	Development of Tripura Sundari Temple, Udaipur	34.43

List of Projects Sanctioned under the Scheme Assistance to Central Agencies

(In ₹ Crore)

S. No.	Agency	Name of Project	State	Sanction Year	Amount sanctioned
1	IWAI	Development of Jetties at 9 main points of embarkation/ disembarkation of River Cruise on National Waterways No. 1 & 2	Assam	2020-2021	28.03
2	WAPCOS	Development of Convention Centre and	Mizoram	2020-2021	39.94

		associated Infrastructure at Aizawl.			
3	NHIDCL	Development of 22 viewpoints in North Eastern State (i) Nagaland (2 view points)- R s.5.77 Crore. (ii) Meghalaya (3 view points) – Rs.6.26 Crore. (iii) Mizoram (9 view points)- R s.12.78 Crore. (iv) Arunachal Pradesh (4 view points) – R s.6.25 Crore. (v) Manipur (3 view points)- R s.5.93 Crore. (vi) Sikkim/West Bengal (1 view point)- Rs.3 .70 Crore.	Nagaland, Meghalaya , Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipal Sikkim/ West Bengal	2022-2023	44.44
4	Joint development of tourist amenities by the Ministry of Railways (MoR) and Ministry of Tourism (MoT)	Kamakhya Railway Station	Assam	2018-2019	4.96
5		Guwahati Railway Station	Assam	2018-2019	4.99
