



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
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# Centre sanctions 116 new tourist spots across the country

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## Context

The Centre has sanctioned 116 new tourist destinations across the country under various schemes in partnership with State governments which would be developed at a cost of ₹4,088 crores

The **Swadesh Darshan scheme** aims to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations by focusing on **theme-based circuits** and providing **financial assistance to State** governments for infrastructure development.

The Centre has also approved the initiative to develop **tribal homestays** under the Swadesh Darshan scheme as part of the **Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan**

## Swadesh Darshan Scheme

It was launched in **2015** by the **Ministry of Tourism**, Government of India, to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations in the country.

It is 100% centrally funded scheme (**central sector scheme**).

Under the scheme, the **Ministry of Tourism** provides financial assistance to State governments, Union Territory Administrations or Central Agencies for development of tourism infrastructure in the country.

**Operation & Maintenance (O&M)** of the projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan Scheme is the responsibility of the respective State Government/UT Administration

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## Swadesh Darshan 2.0:

The objective for the Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme is to **increase private sector investment** in tourism & hospitality.

It may help in increasing **Public Private Partnerships (PPP)** in the field of tourism and operation and maintenance of the created assets under the scheme

## About PM Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA)

It is a **centrally sponsored scheme** for the **welfare of tribal families** in tribal-majority villages and aspirational districts.

It will cover around 63,000 villages benefitting more than 5 crore tribal people.

According to the 2011 Census, India has a Scheduled Tribe (ST) population of 10.42 crore (8.6%), consisting of over 705 tribal communities.

**Objective:** It envisions fulfilling critical gaps in social infrastructure like **health, education, livelihood**, through different schemes of Government of India by convergence and outreach.

## Initiatives under PMJUGA Scheme

**Tribal Home Stay:** To **boost tourism in tribal areas** and provide alternative **livelihoods**, the Ministry of Tourism will promote 1,000 homestays under the Swadesh Darshan scheme. Villages with tourist potential will receive funding for 5-10 homestays, with each household eligible for Rs 5 lakh to build two new rooms, up to Rs 3 lakh for renovating existing rooms, and Rs 5 lakh for community needs.

**Sustainable Livelihood for Forest Right Holders:** The mission places a special focus on 22 lakh Forest Rights Act, 2006 patta holders in forest areas. It aims to expedite the **recognition of forest rights**, empower tribal

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communities, and **provide sustainable livelihoods** through various governmental schemes.

**Improving infrastructure of Govt residential Schools and Hostels:** The initiative includes improving the infrastructure of tribal residential schools, hostels, and ashram schools to enhance local educational resources, promote enrollment, and retain students in these institutions.

**Advanced facilities for diagnosis of Sickle Cell Disease:** Centre of Competence (CoC) would be set up in AIIMS and premier Institutes in the States where Sickle cell disease is prevalent.