



Press Release

Union Minister of State for Tourism, Prahlad Patel on two day visit to Goa: Inaugurates Swadesh Darshan projects completed at Anjuna, Candolim & Morjim, lays foundation stone for Convention Center & Aguada Jail project, launches Goa Tourism's mobile application

Panjim, Sept 12: The Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Tourism, Mr. Prahlad Singh Patel today inaugurated tourism infrastructure projects funded by the Government of India under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme, while also laying foundation stones for two new tourism projects in the State and launching of Goa Tourism's mobile application.

On a debut visit to Goa after taking charge as Union Minister for Tourism, Mr. Patel hailed the achievements of Goa as a tourism destination and assured all central assistance to Goa for boosting tourism related infrastructure and initiatives in the State.

At a function in the capital city today, Mr. Patel unveiled the plaques inaugurating the Anjuna beach parking and public utility facilities, Candolim beach parking and public utility facilities and Morjim Khind – the new tourism destination.

He further laid foundation stones for the Mini Convention Center proposed at Patto in Panjim and Development of Aguada Jail as a tourism destination.

Goa Tourism's new mobile application was also launched at the hands of the Hon'ble Union minister of State for Tourism.

Present at the function included Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa, Dr Pramod Sawant, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Defence & AYUSH(1/C), Mr. Shripad Naik, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism-Govt. of Goa, Mr. Manohar Ajgaonkar, Hon'ble Chairman of GTDC, Mr. Dayanand Sopte, Secretary Tourism-Govt. of Goa, Mr. J Ashok Kumar, Director of Tourism-Govt. of Goa, Mr. Sanjiv Gadkar, Managing Director of GTDC, Mr. Nikhil Desai, GTDC Board of Directors, TTAG representatives and officials of Goa Tourism and Project Cell of GTDC.



PROJECTS IN DETAIL

The Government of India initiated the 'Swadesh Darshan' Scheme under the Ministry of Tourism (MoT), with the intention of promoting and preserving the rich cultural and natural heritage of the country. Based on the Swadesh Darshan Guidelines and the local context the Coastal Circuit was selected as the priority circuit to be taken up for the State of Goa due to its footfall and need for amenities. A proposal was prepared by the lead Consultants M/s Darashaw & Company Private Limited and submitted to the Ministry of Tourism for approval.

Swadesh Darshan Coastal Circuit – I for North Goa was sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 99.99 Crores in June 2016.

Details of the projects completed.

Development of Anjuna Beach

The key components of the project include Parking (4 - Wheeler Parking -172 nos., Two Wheeler Parking – 180 nos. and Bus Parking -29 nos.), Toilet Block with STP, Security Cabin, Entrance Plaza, Illumination, CCTV, WiFi Facilities, Landscaping & Kiosks. The total area developed is 13600 sq.mts. The Consultant on the project is M/s Fourth Dimension, Pune.

Development of facilities at Candolim beach

The development of Candolim beach is done by GTDC with infrastructural facilities like parking, illumination & providing handicap friendly access from parking to the beach. This is undertaken in an area of 16,201 sq.mts.

The salient features of the project include: Parking for Cars, Buses and two-wheelers. Garden & Play space in an area of 1960 sq. mts, Public Conveniences (i.e. Toilet Block) with STP, Tourist Information Centre, CCTV Coverage and Drinking Water Facilities (RO Plant).

Development of Morjim Khind

GTDC has developed Morjim Khind as a spiritual destination along with ancillary entertainment facilities for kids. GTDC has completed the development through Central Financial Assistance (CFA) obtained under Swadesh Darshan scheme, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. The development includes Pathway and Parking & Creek development. The salient features of the project include: Entrance plaza with fountain, Meditation kiosk, Yogshala, Seating pavilion, Amphitheater, Souvenir shops, Play equipment and FRP floating jetty & pedal boats. As part of the Project, a Cafeteria with food court and parking facilities have been provided.



Details of projects for which foundation stone laid

DEVELOPMENT OF CONVENTION CENTRE AT RUA DE OUREM, PATTO, PANAJI

GTDC has obtained Central Financial Assistance for development of Convention Center at Rua De Ourem in Patto, Panaji. The development includes an exhibition hall with 500 pax capacity and convention center with 1320 pax along with parking space for 350 vehicles.

The Convention center is expected to cost INR 89.88 Crore, out of which INR 41.60 Crore is sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan scheme and the rest is funded by the State Government.

On its completion, the Convention center is expected to attract MICE customers for events and conventions and will aid in improving tourism in the State.

Basement – Parking

Ground floor - Exhibition hall

First floor – Auditorium

Terrace Floor – Terrace Restaurant

RENOVATION, RESTORATION OF AGUADA JAIL

GTDC is restoring the Aguada Lower Fort (Central Jail) as a monument for freedom struggle in Goa to commemorate as well as to increase awareness among the general public and tourists regarding the contribution of Freedom fighters in Goa's freedom struggle. Under the guidance of ASI and other subject matter experts.

GTDC is undertaking this development through central Financial Assistance of INR 25.84 Crore.

Total plot area: 116225 Sq.m.

Proposed Components for development:

- **Freedom Struggle through light and sound show**
- **Barracks development**
- **TIC, admin block and souvenir**
- **Restoration of aquifer**
- **Water fountain**
- **Digital Museum**
- **Prison cell for photography etc.**

Details of Mobile Application launched

LAUNCH OF MOBILE APPLICATION

The mobile app will provide convenience to tourists by providing necessary information about travel tourism services, festivals, tourist attractions, places of interest etc.

Few highlights of the app include:

- (1) Information on Goa and its tourist attractions
- (2) Booking of Hotels, cruises, tours, new tourism services etc.



- (3) 360 degree view of tourist attractions
- (4) Festivals calendar
- (5) Emergency services etc.