

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.98  
ANSWERED ON 14.09.2020**

**PROMOTION OF TOURISM AT BUDDHIST SITES**

**98. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:**

**Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of International tourists who have visited the recognized Buddhist sites in India during the last three year-wise and site-wise;**
- (b) whether the Government has any plans or taken any steps to promote tourism related to Buddhism and to Buddhist sites in India;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) whether the Government has any plans or taken any steps to promote Spiritual Tourism in India and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)**

**(a): Data on tourists site wise visits is not maintained by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. However as per the information received from ASI, data on no. of tourists visited to some of the Buddhist caves/monuments in year 2017, 2018 and 2019 are attached at Annexure I.**

**(b)&(c): Ministry of Tourism has undertaken development of tourism related infrastructure and facilities at various Buddhist Sites in the country under its flagships schemes of Swadesh Darshan & PRASHAD. Buddhist sites has been identified as one of the 15 thematic circuits under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme. A total number of 5 projects for an amount of Rs. 353.73 crore have been sanctioned for the development of Buddhist Sites under the**

**Swadesh Darsha Scheme. In addition, projects for development of infrastructure have also been undertaken under the PRASHAD Scheme. A total number of 30 projects for an amount of Rs.918.92 crore have been sanctioned under the PRASHAD Scheme. Ministry of Tourism has also identified Buddhist Sites at Bodhgaya, Ajanta & Ellora to be developed as Iconic Tourist Sites.**

**In addition to the development of tourism related infrastructure under the various schemes of the Ministry of Tourism, emphasis is also being put on promoting the various Buddhist Sites within India and overseas markets. As part of the above, India Tourism Offices in overseas markets regularly participate in a number of travel and tourism fairs as well as exhibitions wherein India's Buddhist Sites are promoted. Ministry of Tourism has showcased the Buddhist Sites on the Incredible India Website and has also developed a dedicated website [www.indiathelandofbuddha.in](http://www.indiathelandofbuddha.in). Ministry of Tourism organises Buddhist Conclave every alternate year with the objective of promoting India as a Buddhist Destination and major markets around the globe. List of projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan in Buddhist circuits are attached at Annexure II .**

**Further as per the information received from ASI ,CNBs Signage have been installed in Chinese language at 5 below monuments in Uttar Pradesh:**

- (i) Site and Stupa and monastery of the Sakyas Piprahwa- Lucknow Circle**
- (ii) Sravasti – Lucknow Circle**
- (iii) Ancient Buddhist site of Sarnath- Sarnath Circle**
- (iv) Chaukhandi Stupa – Sarnath Circle**
- (v) Buddhist relics and Mahaparinirvana temple located at Kushinagar- Sarnath Circle.**

**The CNBs signage in Sinhali language at Sanchi monuments in Madhya Pradesh has also been installed.**

**(d): Ministry of Tourism under its flagships schemes of Swadesh Darshan & PRASHAD is promoting spiritual tourism. Spiritual Circuit has been identified as one of the 15 thematic circuits under the**

**Swadesh Darshan Scheme. A total number of 13 projects for an amount of Rs.764.85 crore have been sanctioned for the development of Spiritual Circuit under the Swadesh Darsha Scheme. In addition, projects for development of infrastructure at religious and spiritual sites have also been undertaken under the PRASHAD Scheme. A total number of 30 projects for an amount of Rs.918.92 crore have been sanctioned under the PRASHAD Scheme.**

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**Annexure I**

**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF THE LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 98 ANSWERED ON 14.09.2020  
REGARDING PROMOTION OF TOURISM AT BUDDHIST SITES**

<b>No. of tourists visited to the Buddhist caves/monuments</b>								
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Circle</b>	<b>Monument</b>	<b>2017-18</b>		<b>2018-19</b>		<b>2019-2020</b>	
			<b>Indian Visitor</b>	<b>Foreigner Visitor</b>	<b>Indian Visitor</b>	<b>Foreigner Visitor</b>	<b>Indian Visitor</b>	<b>Foreigner Visitor</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Bhopal</b>	<b>Buddhist Monument</b>	<b>391887</b>	<b>6858</b>	<b>300571</b>	<b>29230</b>	<b>250706</b>	<b>3986</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Bhopal</b>	<b>Buddhist Caves</b>	<b>49572</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19920</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Bhopal</b>	<b>Buddhist Cave No. 01 to 51, Dhamnar, Tehsil Garoth</b>					<b>32578</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Bhubaneswar</b>	<b>Ruins of Buddhist Temples and Images Khandagiri and Udayigiri</b>	<b>693327</b>	<b>3854</b>	<b>55908</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>311115</b>	<b>2489</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Bhubaneswar</b>	<b>Excavated site Lalitgiri</b>	<b>46798</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>47451</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>44573</b>	<b>389</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Hyderabad</b>	<b>Buddhist Monuments</b>			<b>25470</b>	<b>66</b>		
<b>7</b>	<b>Hyderabad</b>	<b>Ruined Buddhist Stupa</b>			<b>10894</b>	<b>863</b>		
<b>8</b>	<b>Mumbai</b>	<b>Buddhist Caves Kanheri</b>	<b>402860</b>	<b>11859</b>	<b>432305</b>	<b>12134</b>	<b>401808</b>	<b>12106</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Nagpur</b>	<b>Ancient Buddhist Remains comprising moostery Stupa rock Soulptures, inscriptions etc. Mansar</b>					<b>1596</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Sarnath</b>	<b>Ancient Buddhist Site know as Chaukhand I Stupa</b>			<b>538041</b>	<b>251932</b>	<b>55144</b>	<b>5186</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Vadodra</b>	<b>Buddhist Caves, Junagadh</b>	<b>40918</b>	<b>1241</b>	<b>14567</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>18755</b>	<b>796</b>

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**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (B) & (C) OF THE LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 98 ANSWERED ON 14.09.2020  
REGARDING PROMOTION OF TOURISM AT BUDDHIST SITES**

**DETAILS of PROJECT SANCTIONED UNDER SWADESH DARSHAN  
SCHEME**

(Rs. in crore)

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Name of the Circuit</b>	<b>Name of the Project</b>	<b>Amt. Sanctioned</b>	<b>Amount released</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>	<b>Buddhist Circuit</b>	<b>Development of Sanchi-Satna-Rewa-Mandsaur-Dhar.</b>	<b>74.02</b>	<b>62.33</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	<b>Buddhist Circuit</b>	<b>Development of Srawasti, Kushinagar, &amp; Kapilvastu.</b>	<b>99.97</b>	<b>72.56</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Bihar</b>	<b>Buddhist Circuit</b>	<b>Construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya</b>	<b>98.73</b>	<b>48.69</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Gujarat</b>	<b>Buddhist circuit</b>	<b>Development of Junagadh- GirSomnath- Bharuch-Kutch- Bhavnagar- Rajkot- Mehsana</b>	<b>28.67</b>	<b>17.40</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	<b>Buddhist Circuit</b>	<b>Development of Buddhist Circuit: Shalihundam- Thotlakonda- Bavikonda- Bojjanakonda- Amravati- Anupu in Andhra Pradesh under the theme of Buddhist Circuit of Swadesh Darshan Scheme.</b>	<b>52.34</b>	<b>26.17</b>

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