

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.315
ANSWERED ON 15.09.2020

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW RELIGIOUS TOURIST CIRCUITS IN BIHAR

315. # SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY:

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

- (a) whether Government has any plan to build new religious tourist circuits in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Development and promotion of tourist places is primarily the responsibility of concerned State Government/ Union Territory Administration. However, the Ministry of Tourism under 'Swadesh Darshan' scheme provides financial assistance to the States/Union Territory Administrations/ Central Agencies etc. for integrated development of theme based tourist circuits. In addition, financial assistance is provided under 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' scheme with the objective of holistic development of identified pilgrimage and heritage destination. The Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned projects under the theme 'Spiritual', 'Buddhist' and 'Tirthankar' in the State of Bihar under Swadesh Darshan Scheme, which could be considered as religious tourist circuits.

The details of the projects sanctioned in Bihar under Swadesh Darshan scheme covering 'Spiritual', 'Buddhist' and 'Tirthankar' themes and PRASHAD scheme is as under:

(Amount in crore)

S.no.	Year	Scheme	Name of Circuit	Name of the Project	Sanctioned amount
1.	2016-17	Swadesh Darshan	Tirthankar circuit	Development of Vaishali- Arrah- Masad- Patna- Rajgir- Pawapuri- Champapuri.	52.39
2.	2016-17	Swadesh Darshan	Spiritual circuit	Integrated Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj- Mojma- Banka.	52.35
3.	2016-17	Swadesh Darshan	Buddhist Circuit	Construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya	98.73
4.	2017-18	Swadesh Darshan	Spiritual Circuit	Development of Mandar Hill & Ang Pradesh	47.52
5.	2014-15	PRASHAD	--	Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad Temple, Gaya	4.27
6.	2015-16	PRASHAD	--	Development of Patna Sahib	41.54
