

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2106
ANSWERED ON 18.12.2025

**CONSERVATION, RESTORATION AND UPGRADATION OF TOURIST
FACILITIES IN BIHAR**

2106# DR. BHIM SINGH:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of projects approved during the last three years for conservation, restoration and upgradation of tourist facilities at protected monuments in Bihar, particularly those related to Nalanda, Vaishali, Vikramshila and Pataliputra and the amount spent on these projects, so far; and
- (b) whether the Ministry has considered including lesser-known but historically important sites in Bihar in the list of protected monuments of national importance and if so, the details of identification of such sites, the status of proposals and the proposed steps for their conservation?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

- (a) There are 70 nos. of centrally protected monuments/ sites under the jurisdiction of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in the State of Bihar. Conservation, preservation, maintenance and beautification of these centrally protected monuments/sites is a continuous process and is taken up as per the requirement and availability of resources. All the monuments/sites are in a good state of preservation. The amount spent on the conservation, maintenance and Up-gradation of tourist amenities on protected monuments/sites in Bihar including those related to Nalanda, Vaishali, Vikramshila and Pataliputra during the last three years are given below:-

| Sr. No. | Financial Year | Expenditure incurred (Amount in Rs.) |
|---------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | 2022-23 | 8,97,99,466.00 |
| 2. | 2023-24 | 15,99,99,412.00 |
| 3. | 2024-25 | 8,72,99,579.00 |
| 4. | 2025-26 (till date) | 9,19,70,756.00 |

In addition, development and promotion of tourism destinations and products including conservation, restoration and upgradation of tourist amenities at various tourist destinations is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Government (SGs)/Union Territory Administrations (UTAs). The Ministry of Tourism through its schemes of Swadesh Darshan , Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD 2.0), ‘Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)’, a sub-scheme of Swadesh Darshan scheme and ‘Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)’ Scheme complement the efforts of tourism infrastructure development and creating experiences

by providing financial assistance to the State Government/UT Administrations. This assistance is provided on receipt of the project proposals from the concerned SGs/UTAs agency under the relevant schemes in synergy with the scheme guidelines, Government instructions, availability of funds etc.

In addition, the Government of India under its 'Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) – Development of Iconic Tourist Centres to Global Scale' sanctioned 40 projects in 23 States for Rs.3295.76 Crore in the country including projects in Bihar, in Financial Year 2024-25 with the primary objective to comprehensively develop iconic tourist centres in the country, branding and marketing them at global scale.

The details of the projects sanctioned under SD, SD 2.0, CBDD and SASCI schemes in the State of Bihar is given at Annexure - I.

- (b) The declaration of ancient monuments or archaeological sites and remains as of National importance is a regular process undertaken according to provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act, 1958.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2106 FOR 18.12.2025.

List of Projects sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan Scheme

| | | | Amount (in Rs. Cr.) |
|---------|--|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Sl. No. | Name of Project | Theme/Sanction year | Amount Sanctioned |
| 1. | Development of Vaishali-Arrah-Masad-Patna-Rajgir-Pawapuri-Champapuri | Tirthankar Circuit 2016-17 | 33.96 |
| 2. | Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj – Dharmshala-Deoghar | Spiritual Circuit 2016-17 | 44.76 |
| 3. | Development of Buddhist circuit- Construction of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya | Buddhist Circuit 2016-17 | 95.18 |
| 4. | Development of Bhitiharwa-Chandrahia-Turkaulia | Rural Circuit 2017-18 | 44.27 |
| 5. | Development of Mandar Hill & Ang Pradesh | Spiritual Circuit 2017-18 | 44.55 |

List of Projects sanctioned under SD 2.0

| | | | Amount (in Rs. Cr.) |
|---------|---|------------------|---------------------|
| Sl. No. | Name of Project | Year of Sanction | Amount Sanctioned |
| 1. | Development of the Buddhist Meditation & Experience Centre, Bodh Gaya | 2024-25 | 165.44 |

List of Projects sanctioned under CBDD a sub scheme of SD 2.0

| | | | | Amount (in Rs. Cr.) |
|---------|---|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Sl. No. | Name of Project | Year of Sanction | Category | Amount Sanctioned |
| 1. | Development of Tourist Facilities at Sonapur Mela Ground, Saran | 2024-25 | Culture & Heritage | 24.29 |

List of Projects sanctioned under PRASHAD scheme

| | | | Amount (in Rs. Cr.) |
|---------|--|------------------|---------------------|
| Sl. No. | Name of Project | Year of Sanction | Sanctioned Cost |
| 1. | Development at Patna Sahib | 2015-16 | 29.62 |
| 2. | Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad Temple, Gaya, Bihar | 2014-15 | 3.63 |
| 3. | Development of Ambika Bhawani Temple, Saran | 2024-25 | 13.29 |

List of Projects sanctioned under SASCI scheme

| | | | Amount (in Rs. Cr.) |
|---------|--|------------------|---------------------|
| Sl. No. | Name of Project | Year of Sanction | Sanctioned Cost |
| 1. | Development of Matsyagandha Lake in Saharsa | 2024-25 | 97.61 |
| 2. | Karamchat Eco-Tourism and Adventure Hub in Karamchat | 2024-25 | 49.51 |