

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1420#
ANSWERED ON 30.07.2026

DEVELOPMENT OF MITHILA TOURISM CIRCUIT

1420# DR. DHARMSHILA GUPTA:

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

- (a) whether any project has been sanctioned during the last three years under the Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD or any other Central Scheme for the development of the religious, cultural and historical sites in the Mithila region and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is considering the development of a 'Mithila Tourism Circuit' by connecting Darbhanga, Ahilya Sthan (Kamtaul), Kusheshwar Asthan, Uchaith, Vidyapati Dham and other prominent religious and cultural sites in the Mithila region and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (c): Development and promotion of tourism is primarily done by the concerned State Government (SG)/UT Administration (UTA). However, Ministry of Tourism under its various schemes such as Swadesh Darshan (SD), Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0), Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD) – an initiative under Swadesh Darshan and Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) etc. provides financial assistance for development of tourism infrastructure and experiences in the country, to the SGs/UTAs, on receipt of the project proposals from them, in synergy with the scheme guidelines, Government directions, availability of funds, inter-se priority etc.

The Ministry of Tourism has revamped the circuit-based development model of Swadesh Darshan scheme into destination and tourist centric approach under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 scheme with an objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations in the country.

In addition, the Government of India under its 'Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) – Development of Iconic Tourist Centres to Global Scale' has also sanctioned projects in the country 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 SD2.0, CBDD, SASCI and PRASHAD schemes in the State of Bihar including Mithila Region in last three years is annexed.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (C) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1420# ANSWERED ON 30.07.2026 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF MITHILA TOURISM CIRCUIT RAISED BY DR. DHARMSHILA GUPTA**

Details of the projects sanctioned under SD2.0, CBDD, SASCI and PRASHAD schemes in the State of Bihar including Mithila Region in last three years:

(i) Details of Project sanctioned under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme in the State of Bihar:

S . No.	Name of the Project/Experience	Year of Sanction	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)
1.	Development of the Buddhist Meditation & Experience Centre, Bodh Gaya	2024-2025	165.44

(ii) Details of Project sanctioned under Challenge Based Destination Development Scheme in the State of Bihar:

S.No.	Name of the Project/Experience	Category	Year of Sanction	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)
1.	Development of Sonapur Fair Site at Saran District	Culture & Heritage	2024-2025	24.29

(iii) Details of Project sanctioned under SASCI Scheme in the State of Bihar:

S. No.	Name of the Project/Experience	Year of Sanction	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)
1.	Development of Matsyagandha Lake in Saharsa	2024-25	97.61
2.	Karamchat Eco-Tourism and Adventure Hub in Karamchat	2024-25	49.51

(iv) Details of Project sanctioned under PRASHAD Scheme in the State of Bihar:

S.No.	Name of the Project/Experience	Year of Sanction	Sanctioned Cost (in ₹ Crore)
1.	Development of Ambika Bhawani Temple, Saran	2024-25	13.29
