

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3026 #
ANSWERED ON 13.08.2026

TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE IN NALANDA AND BHAGALPUR

3026 # DR. BHIM SINGH:

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

- (a) whether Government has any specific long-term plan or mega-project under consideration to revive the historical legacy of the ancient Nalanda University and Vikramshila University and to establish Nalanda and Bhagalpur as world-class centres of tourism and knowledge; and
- (b) the concrete policy initiatives being undertaken by Government under the 'Swadesh Darshan 2.0' to strengthen basic tourism infrastructure, State-of-the-art research centres and international connectivity in Nalanda and Bhagalpur and to attract tourists and researchers from across the world?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT)

(a) to (b): Development and promotion of tourism destinations and products is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Government (SG)/Union Territory Administration (UTA).

The Ministry of Tourism through its central sector schemes of 'Swadesh Darshan (SD) and Swadesh Darshan 2.0 (SD2.0)', 'Challenge Based Destination Development (CBDD)', a sub-scheme of Swadesh Darshan scheme and 'Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)' complements the efforts of tourism infrastructure development in the country by extending financial assistance to the SGs/UTAs in synergy with the scheme guidelines, receipt of the project proposals from the concerned State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, availability of funds etc.

Receiving of Project Proposal, Master Plan etc. from the State Government/UT Administrations is a continuous process. The proposals received are examined as per the scheme guidelines and financial assistance is extended for such project proposals subject to availability of funds, inter-se priority etc.

Bhagalpur has been identified for tourism development under CBDD scheme. However, no project has been sanctioned due to non-availability of clearance etc.

Further, State Government of Bihar has prepared a comprehensive destination strategy and development plan for Nalanda-Rajgir.

Presently no project for development of Nalanda and Bhagalpur is under consideration under the ongoing schemes of this Ministry.
