

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†825
ANSWERED ON 21.11.2016**

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW TOURIST CENTRES

†825. DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to explore the possibilities of establishing new tourist centres in the country, specially in Bihar;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the time by which the said centres are likely to be developed?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

(a) to (c): For development of tourism infrastructure in the country including Bihar, the Ministry of Tourism has launched two new schemes in 2014-15 viz. Swadesh Darshan - Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits and PRASAD-Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive.

Under Swadesh Darshan scheme thirteen thematic circuits have been identified for development namely; North-East India Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Himalayan Circuit, Coastal Circuit, Krishna Circuit, Desert Circuit, Tribal Circuit, Eco Circuit, Wildlife Circuit, Rural Circuit, Spiritual Circuit, Ramayana Circuit and Heritage Circuit.

Under PRASAD scheme, 23 sites of religious significance have been identified for development namely Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh), Amritsar (Punjab), Ajmer (Rajasthan), Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh), Dwarka (Gujarat), Deoghar (Jharkhand), Belur (West

Bengal), Gaya (Bihar), Guruvayoor (Kerala), Hazratbal (Jammu & Kashmir), Kamakhya (Assam), Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu), Kedarnath (Uttarakhand), Mathura (Uttar Pradesh), Patna (Bihar), Puri (Odisha), Srisailam (Andhra Pradesh), Somnath (Gujarat), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Trimbakeshwar (Maharashtra), Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh), Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh) and Vellankani (Tamil Nadu).

The details of projects sanctioned in Bihar since 2014-15 are as under:

Swadesh Darshan Scheme:

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Circuit	Name of the Project/Year of sanction	Amt. Sanctioned
1	Buddhist Circuit	Construction of Cultural Centre adjacent to Maya Sarovar on the western side at Bodhgaya, Bihar (2014-15)	33.17
2	Spiritual Circuit	Development of Jain Circuit: Vaishali-Arrah-Masad-Patna-Rajgir-Pawapuri-Champapuri as Spiritual Circuit in Bihar (2016-17)	52.39
3	Spiritual Circuit	Integrated Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj – Dharmshala-Deoghar under Spiritual circuit in Bihar (2016-17)	52.35
		Total	137.91

PRASAD Scheme:

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Amt. Sanctioned
1	Development of basic facilities at Vishnupad temple, Gaya, Bihar (2014-15)	4.27
2	Development at Patna Sahib (2015-16)	41.54
	Total	45.81

The completion time of above projects varies from 18 to 36 months.
