

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1599
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5.3.2018

NATIONAL POLICY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ANCIENT HERITAGE

+1599. DR. BANSHILAL MAHATO:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any National Policy for promotion and development of country's historic and religious heritage;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has identified new historical and religious places in the country during the last two years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
CULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT,
FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) to (d) As per the information received from Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, the National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY), a Central Sector Scheme, with a total outlay of Rs. 500 Cr. was launched on 21st January, 2015.
- HRIDAY scheme aims at preserving and revitalizing the soul and the unique character of the heritage cities in India. Under the Scheme, twelve cities namely, Ajmer, Amritsar, Amaravati, Badami, Dwarka, Gaya, Kanchipuram, Mathura, Puri, Varanasi, Velankanni, and Warangal have been identified for development. The mission period of HRIDAY Scheme is till November, 2018. HRIDAY Scheme supports the development of core heritage linked civic infrastructure projects which includes revitalization of urban infrastructure for areas around heritage, religious, cultural and tourism assets of the cities. These initiatives include development of water supply, sanitation, drainage, waste management, approach roads, footpaths, street lights, tourist conveniences, electricity wiring, landscaping etc.
- So far, 63 projects amounting to Rs. 421.47 cr. for the 12 HRIDAY Cities have been approved under the Scheme out of which 241.26 cr. has been released. Project implementation has begun in all 12 cities and the physical progress of the scheme so far is around 40%.