

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†972
ANSWERED ON 17.12.2018**

DEVELOPMENT OF GHORA-KATORA IN NALANDA

†972. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to initiate development work at Ghora-Katora and Pavapuri in Nalanda by providing additional economic package with a view to attract more international tourists;**
- (b) whether possibilities of more revenue generation and employment generation at local level will increase by the proper development of Ghora-Katora and Pavapuri as tourist places;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and**
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI K.J. ALPHONS)

(a) to (d): Promotion and development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/Union Territories. However, the Ministry of Tourism under its three schemes i.e., Swadesh Darshan, PRASHAD and Assistance to Central Agencies provides central financial assistance to State Governments/UT Administrations/Central Agencies for development of tourism infrastructure in the country. One of the major objective of the above schemes is to position tourism as a major engine of economic growth and job creation.

The projects under the scheme are identified for development in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations and

are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, submission of suitable detailed project reports, adherence to scheme guidelines and utilization of funds released earlier. Based on above criteria, Ministry has sanctioned funds to the tune of Rs.68.42 lakh for development of Pawapuri under the project “Development of Tirthankar Circuit: Vaishali- Arrah- Masad- Patna- Rajgir- Pawapuri- Champapuri in Bihar under Swadesh Darshan Scheme”. The Ministry has not received any proposal from the Government of Bihar for development of Ghora-Katora in Nalanda under any of the three infrastructure development schemes.

The Ministry sanctioned an amount of Rs.4841 lakh for Integrated Development of Ghora Katora (Rajgir- Jalmandir- Pawapuri) as Mega Circuit in Bihar in the year 2013-14 along with release of Rs.968.35 lakh as 1st installment under its PIDDC Scheme. The PIDDC scheme is not supported by the Government of India from the year 2015-16. The unfinished works are to be completed by the State Governments from their own resources.
