

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†1364  
ANSWERED ON 11.02.2019**

**INCLUSION OF PLACES IN BUDDHIST CIRCUIT**

**†1364. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to include Bodhgaya, Nalanda and Rajgir in Buddhist circuit, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether more and more tourists can be attracted by providing proper road facilities to these three historical places, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether it is also a fact that more and more employment opportunities will be available to the local people at the said three places in case they are included in Buddhist Circuit; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SHRI K.J. ALPHONS)**

**(a) to (d): Buddhist Circuit has been identified as one of the fifteen thematic circuits for development under Swadesh Darshan Scheme. All places associated with the Buddhist heritage in the country including Bodhgaya, Nalanda and Rajgir are covered under the Buddhist Circuit.**

**Bodhgaya, Nalanda and Rajgir are well connected by road and attract good number of tourists. The details of Domestic Tourist Visits (DTVs) and Foreign Tourist Visits (FTVs) at above sites during last two years are as under:**

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>2016</b>		<b>2017 *</b>	
		<b>DTVs</b>	<b>FTVs</b>	<b>DTVs</b>	<b>FTVs</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Bodhgaya</b>	<b>1694321</b>	<b>241514</b>	<b>1757509</b>	<b>283116</b>

<b>2.</b>	<b>Rajgir</b>	<b>1568285</b>	<b>170334</b>	<b>1514279</b>	<b>169444</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Nalanda</b>	<b>1041240</b>	<b>145339</b>	<b>961635</b>	<b>163390</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4303846</b>	<b>557187</b>	<b>4233423</b>	<b>615950</b>

**\*Provisional**

**The projects for development are identified in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations and are sanctioned subject to availability of funds, submission of suitable detailed projects reports, adherence to relevant scheme guidelines and utilization of funds released earlier. Based on above criteria, the Ministry has sanctioned the project Development of Convention Centre at Bodhgaya under Buddhist Circuit theme for Rs.98.73 crore in 2016-17.**

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