

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4217
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2023**

DISSEMINATION OF TEACHINGS OF LORD BUDDHA

4217# SHRI. VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether various programmes and felicitation celebrations are organized by Government on the days related to the Janm Gyaan and Mahaparinirvana of Lord Gautam Buddha in the country ;
- (b) if so, the details of functions organized on these days across the country during the last five years;
- (c) whether the work of disseminating the teachings of Lord Buddha to the people is done through these functions and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the foreign dignitaries and guests are also participating across the world in these functions and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps being taken by the Government to popularize and disseminate the teachings of Gautam Buddha in the country?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF CULTURE, TOURISM AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH
EASTERN REGION
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

- (a) Yes, Sir. The Janm, Gyaan & Mahaparinirvan day also known as 'Triple Vaishakh Day' (Buddha Purnima) is celebrated by the Government through various programmes and felicitation celebrations.
- (b) Details of functions organized by Government on the days related to the Janm, Gyaan and Mahaparinirvana of Lord Gautam Buddha during the last five years are given as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Event	Date of the Events	Venue of the Events
i.	2018	Buddha Jayanti Celebrations.	30 th April, 2018	Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi
ii.	2019	Buddha Jayanti Celebration.	18 th May, 2019	India Habitat Centre, New Delhi
iii.	2020	Virtual Vaishakh Buddha Purnima.	7 th May, 2020	Virtual Programme
iv.	2021	Virtual Vaishakh Buddha Purnima.	26 th May, 2021	Virtual Programme
v.	2022	(a) Vaishakha Buddha Purnima Divas.	16 th May, 2022	Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi
		(b) Foundation stone laying ceremony by Hon'ble Prime Minister for constructing India International Centre for Buddhist Culture & Heritage, Lumbini, Nepal.	16 th May, 2022	Lumbini, Nepal

- (c) Yes, Sir. The events are attended by large number of monastics and lay persons from India and abroad. The events are also telecasted live through digital platform for wider dissemination.
- (d) Yes, Sir. The participation of monastics from other countries of the world is ensured through respective Embassies located in various countries.
- (e) As per Annexure

Annexure

To provide education in Buddhist/Tibetan philosophies and Culture & Art through the system of a modern university, the following four Autonomous Organizations are working under the administrative control of Ministry of Culture, Government of India:

- i. Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Leh (Deemed To Be University)
- i. Nava Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, Bihar (Deemed To Be University)
- ii. Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies (CIHTS), Sarnath (Deemed To Be University)
- iii. Central Institute of Himalayan Culture Studies (CIHCS), Dahung, Arunachal Pradesh

2. In addition to the aforesaid four Autonomous Organizations, Ministry of Culture also provides annual grants-in-aid for the upkeep and maintenance of the following six Grantee Bodies for promoting Buddhist/Tibetan Culture and Art:

- i. Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Dharamshala
- ii Tibet House, New Delhi
- iii Centre for Buddhist Cultural Studies, Tawang Monastery, Arunachal Pradesh
- iiii Namgyal Institute of Tibetology, Sikkim
- iv International Buddhist Confederation
- iv GRL Monastic School, Bomdila, Arunachal Pradesh

3 Further, the following two Financial Grant Schemes are also being implemented by the Ministry for propagation and scientific development of Buddhist/Tibetan Culture and tradition as also for preservation of cultural heritage of Himalayas.

- I. Scheme of Financial Assistance for the Development of Buddhist/Tibetan Culture and Art
- II. Scheme of Financial Assistance for the Preservation & Development of Cultural Heritage of the Himalayas

4. Recently with the M/o External Affairs, the M/o Culture organized a two-day Conference on the theme '*Shared Buddhist Heritage in Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States*' from 14th -15th March, 2023.